HUEY'S CORNER: RESPONSE OF GOVERNMENT TO BPP [PAGE 7]

COMMEMORATOR

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Li'l Bobby Hutton Remembrance

By Commemorator staff

On February 15, family, comrades and friends of Li'l Bobby Hutton took part in a solemn and moving ceremony placing a headstone at the Mountain View Cemetery's gravesite of our fallen comrade Li'l Bobby (April 21, 1950 to April 6, 1968). Li'l Bobby, the first member to join the Black Panther Party and the first party member murdered at the hands of the Oakland police, was a stalwart in the fight for black liberation.

The ceremony consisted of comments from family, comrades and friends, a violin selection by a former Black Panther Party (BPP) member, Tarika Lewis, and a poem by Dr. Tolbert Small, founder of the BPP Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation, which was read by former BPP member and Commemoration Committee for the Black Panther Party (CCBPP) Chairman Melvin Dickson.

Some of the people present at the gravesite had known Li'l Bobby personally as a brother, as a friend or as a model of revolutionary discipline and commitment. Along with others who knew him only through his reputation, all came to pay tribute to his legacy as the first member to join the party, and to his courageous spirit.

The placing of a headstone at his gravesite 35 years after Li'l Bobby's death brought together members of the Hutton family, comrades, friends and admirers. Commemoration Committee for the Black Panther Party sponsored the event as well as the reception that followed at the CCBPP offices with an archive display of the Black Panther Party newspaper that portrayed the party from its inception through its demise (1966 to 1982). CCBPP publishes The Commemorator newspaper, and conducts the Bobby Hutton Literacy Campaign, matching up volunteer tutors and learners, teaching the legacy of Li'l Bobby and the BPP. In Oakland, with a

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Photo by Charles Slay

Photo by Charles Slay

February, 15, 2003, Tarika Lewis, longtime Oakland resident and the first woman to join the Black Panthers, plays a violin selection. Three-year-old Amaris, and Kia Hayes, Li'l Bobby Literacy Campaign coordinator, lay flowers near Hutton's new headstone at his gravesite.

Cuts in Education an Overall Attack

Against Students, Teachers, Working and Poor Communities — That's Why We Fight For Power

By Jonathan Gardner

With the state of California facing 10,000 public school teacher layoffs, Oakland state Senator Don Perata and Assemblywoman Wilma Chan, D. Oakland, authored a bill (SB 39) last month proposing a $100 million, 20-year loan to bail out the Oakland school district. On Wednesday, April 9, the bill passed but was partially gutted by the Senate Educational Committee (SEC). To receive the $100 million, SEC demands that the Oakland School District give up its right to govern. The California Education Code states that the people shall elect a school board to govern the district.

The issue has escalated to the point that thousands of people are expected to descend on the state Capitol in Sacramento May 8 for a high-noon rally. The theme of the May 8 rally is *Education Not Incarceration*. "I will spearhead a rally in Oakland after demonstrators return to the Bay Area from Sacramento, so that the momentum does not end in Sacramento," Sheila Quintana, President of the Oakland Education Association, told the *Commemorator*. "We have to bring it home, because we are fighting for a budget without any wage take-backs, or the firing of teachers. We are demanding local control because of district mismanagement."

On March 10, the School Board for the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) voted (6-1) to

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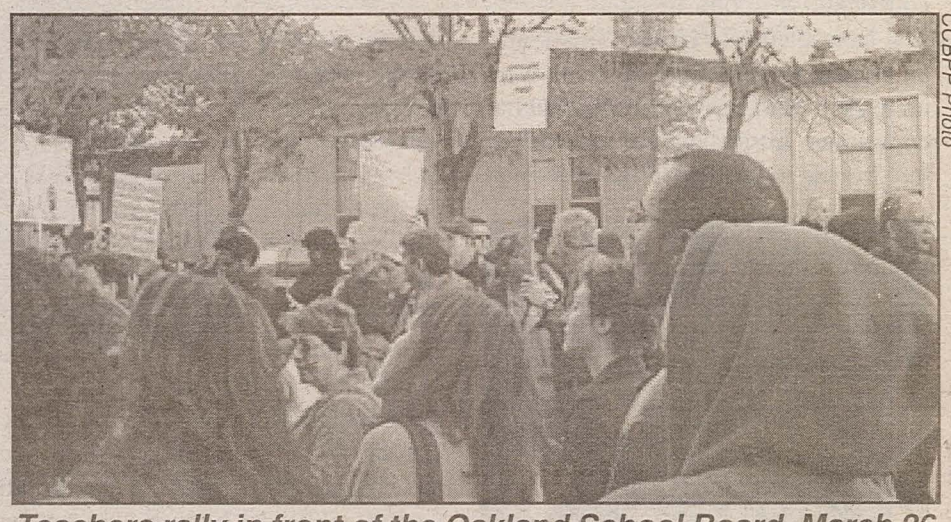
CCBPP Photo

Sheila Quintana, President of the Oakland Education Association (OEA).



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Teachers rally in front of the Oakland School Board, March 26, 2003, to fight the firing of some 400 to 500 teachers.

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Bush's War on Behalf of Monopoly Capitalism —

Especially Against People of Color, Women and Children

Photo by Kelly Dweller

10,000 protesters turned out against the war in Oakland, California, April 5, 2003.

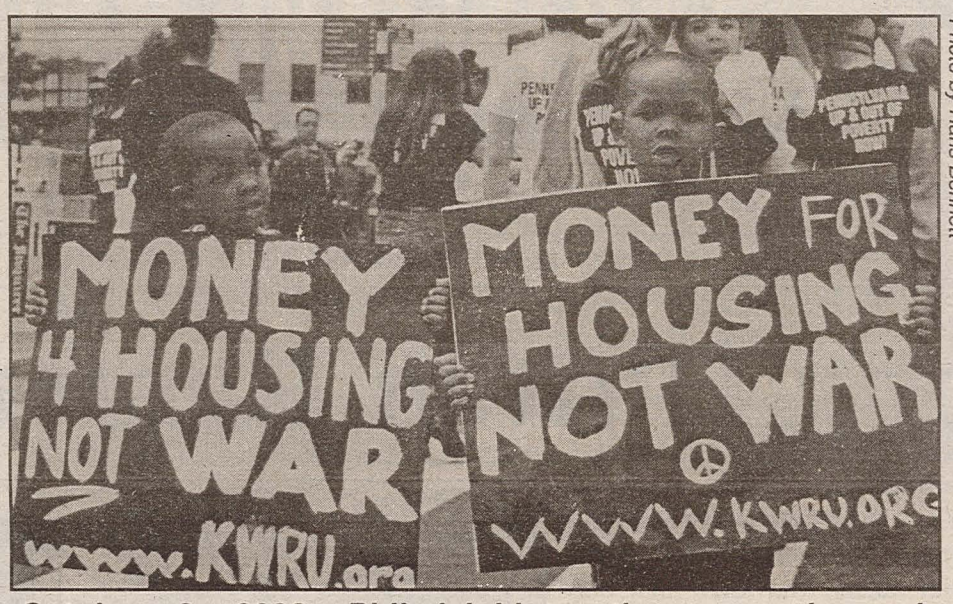

Photo by Hans Bennett

October 2, 2002, Philadelphia anti-war march made connection between poverty, social justice and war. Organized by Kensington Welfare Rights Union.

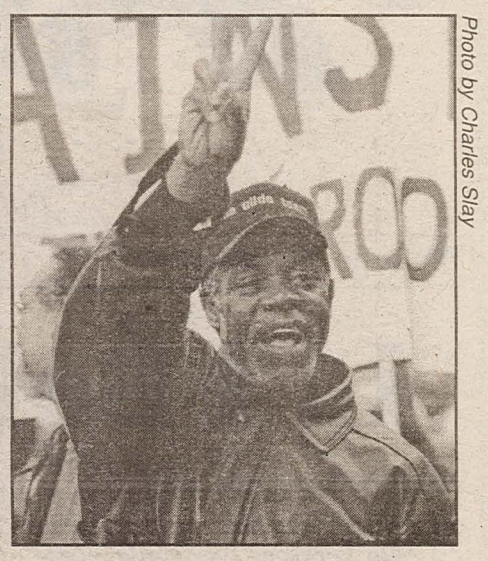

Photo by Charles Slay

At February 16th large anti-war march and rally at Civic Center, San Francisco, Danny Glover gave an eloquent speech.

By Georgia Minard

Point Eight of the Black Panther Ten Point Program

WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO ALL WARS OF AGGRESSION. *We believe that the various conflicts that exist around the world stem directly from the aggressive desires of the U.S. ruling circle and government to force its domination upon the oppressed people of the world. We believe that if the U.S. government or its lackeys do not cease these aggressive wars then it is the right of the people to defend themselves by any means necessary against their aggressor.*

In a speech on January 29th of this year, Nelson Mandela said, "It's a tragedy what is happening, what Bush is doing. Why are they not seeking to confiscate weapons of mass destruction from their ally Israel? This is just an excuse to get Iraq's oil." He went on to say, "If there is a country that has committed unspeakable atrocities in the world, it is the United States of America. Fifty-seven years ago, when Japan was retreating on all fronts, they decided to drop the atom bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, killed a lot of innocent people who are still suffering the effects of those bombs." He went on to say that the reason for using the bomb then was to intimidate the Soviet Union.

"What I am condemning is that one power, with a president who has no foresight, who cannot think properly, is now wanting to plunge the world into holocaust. I am happy that the people of the world, especially the people of the United States — are standing up to their own president."

It's the Economy, Stupid

The reason the Bush team is violating international laws by attacking Iraq is because the stakes are stratospheric — this is a time when the United States economy and world capitalism are in crisis. The world's monopoly capitalist system, led by the United States, is simply bottoming out.

Even with the U.S. Census Bureau underestimating the gap between the Haves and the Have-nots, the gap widens with no solution for the inevitable days of reckoning. "The richest fifth of families receives 47.2% of total income and the poorest fifth receives 4.3% — a record high ratio of 11 to 1. The richest 5% of families receive 20.3% of income — equal to the income of the lower 50% of families. In 1995 the richest 10% of the population owned 70% of all the wealth — up from 50% in 1976 and the richest 1% owned 35.1% of all wealth, while the bottom 80% owned 31.5%."

Consider this: Iraq holds more than 11% of the world's proven oil reserves, second only to Saudi Arabia. General Anthony Zinni, in testimony before Congress in 1999, speaking of the situation in Iraq, stated, "It is imperative that the U.S. control the oil resources of the region."

Iraq: Oil for the taking

This push to invade Iraq begins to make sense from the standpoint of a cabal. With no shame in his game, President George W. Bush's logic is clear for the world to see: Maintain monopoly capitalism at all costs, because this means super profits and political hegemony in that part of the world.

This means a lot for George W. Bush and his wealthy oil buddies, and most of all the global capitalist class they represent. We now witness a desperate life and death attempt by this cabal to take control and consolidate and dominate the world for years to come, to continue to bleed white the bones of the poor and working people of the world.

The Oil Game and U.S. as Empire

Personally, President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney have been heavily involved in the oil and gas industries. In the mid-seventies, George W. Bush started his own oil company with nothing but his family name and loans from his father's Wall Street connections. The company would have failed on its own but instead was absorbed by a larger firm,

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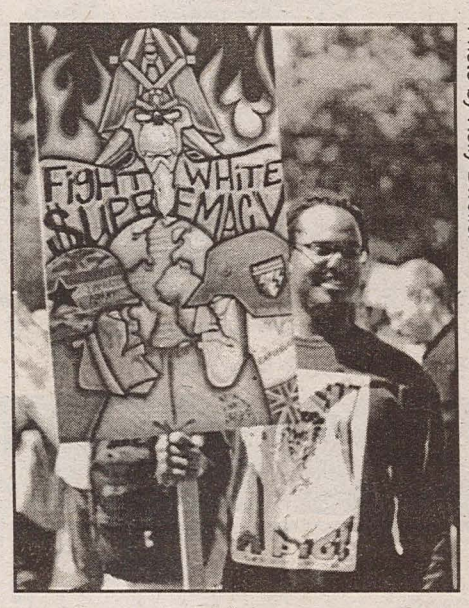

Photo by Kelly Dweller

Oakland, April 5, 2003, Artists Against U.S./British Aggression, protests against war venture for world domination.

Opinions and positions taken in articles with bylines are those of their writer. The views expressed in the bylined editorial and opinion pieces published by The Commemorator *do not necessarily indicate its endorsement or support* — The Editor

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"SERVING ALL OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES"

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Opinion

Another Side of Black History Month

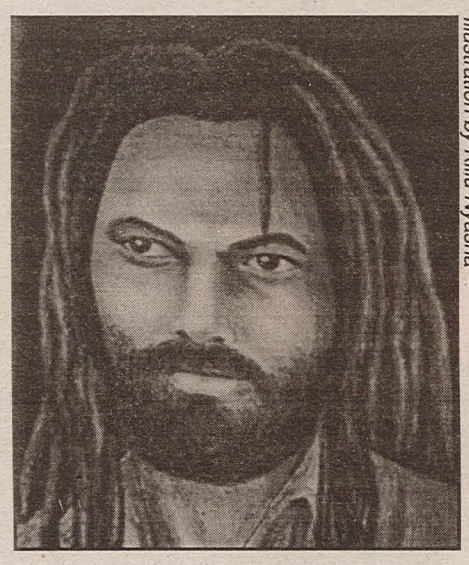

Illustration by Kiilu Nyasha

2003 Mumia Abu-Jamal

Editor's Note: "Mumia has lived in the face of death for over 20 years. He is still alive thanks to the recognition his case has received from supporters all over the world, from Oakland to London to Cuba. It is imperative that this support continues not only until Mumia is free, but also until we are all free," by Jo Laurence and Lisa Porter, who visited Mumia last year, see last issue, Commemorator, January, 2003.

The idea of Black History Month has always filled me with ambivalence.

On the one hand, there is understandable pride in the accomplishments of one's ancestors; people that fought long and hard for their place in the sun, against monstrous odds, and indeed, against American white supremacist terrorism. They used every means imaginable to sustain themselves against a system that was predicated and dedicated to their spiritual, psychological, and material destruction. When one studies the life of Harriet Tubman, or other freedom fighters like her, it is almost impossible not to be moved.

On the other hand, the institutionalization of Black History Month, by corporate, and political America, has resulted in a kind of "dead history," by which I mean the uses of advertising and even stamps, to promote historical figures, many from the distant past, who portray a "safe" side to a history that was, and is, anything but safe.

This has resulted in the promotion of Black historical figures as one-dimensional icons, or advertising gimmicks, that reduce them to familiar names, but little else of substance. Thus, Martin Luther King, Jr. becomes the icon of choice, used by everything from insurance companies to dry cleaners to drum up business among the burgeoning black middle and working class. It has contributed to the selling of Black history, as something that looks, almost endearingly, to the past, as if there is not an awful lot of Black history to be made today. There is also a deep, troubling bourgeois factor in popular black history that seems to remember the well-to-do, yet ignores those who struggled from among the ranks of the poor, who didn't wear clean suits every day, and didn't think that the vote represented the end-all or be-all of the Struggle. I speak of the forgotten ones; those people who fought for freedom and Black Liberation, not at news conferences, or in editorial board meetings with bored journalists, but in the fields, in the shops, in the streets, among the people.

Why not a Black Liberation Month? That would concentrate our minds, not only on history, but on the sometimes painful lessons of history; but more importantly, it would point us to the undiscovered land that beckons us all — the future — Mumia Abu-Jamal.

In this new kind of bourgeois, safe, corporate Black history, people such as these make no real appearances. It's almost as if these agencies strive to create a kind of "black history lite," that will not disturb the sleep or the stomachs of white Americans.

This is a shame, and a disservice to both white, and black Americans, and all who really want to know about the history of this country.

It is therefore fitting to recall those names of people who lived in the hearts and minds of their people, and who, in their own way, fought for freedom, but are rarely mentioned in most history books, and won't be seen on U.S. postage stamps (at least anytime soon, for capitalism, if anything, learns how to co-opt almost everything for profit, eh?). Here are a few:

Ola Mae Quarterman: Long before the famed Rosa Parks refused to take a seat in the back of a Montgomery, Alabama bus, Ms. Quarterman, a bright, sensitive 18-year old girl boarded a bus in Albany, Georgia, and refused to move when the white driver ordered her to. She responded, "I paid my damn ten cents, and I'll sit where I please." When the segregationist-trained driver began to wag his finger in her face, she quite rationally responded, "Get your damn finger out of my face." What happened next was in some ways similar to what happened in Montgomery, and in other ways different.

Ms. Quarterman was convicted of violating the segregationist laws, and sentenced to 30 days in jail. Dr. King even brought his fledgling organization down to Albany to respond to a

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Photo by Hans Bennett

December 8, 2002: Demonstration in Center City, Philadelphia. Ramona Africa, M.O.V.E. organizer and former political prisoner, spoke to the marchers on behalf of Mumia.

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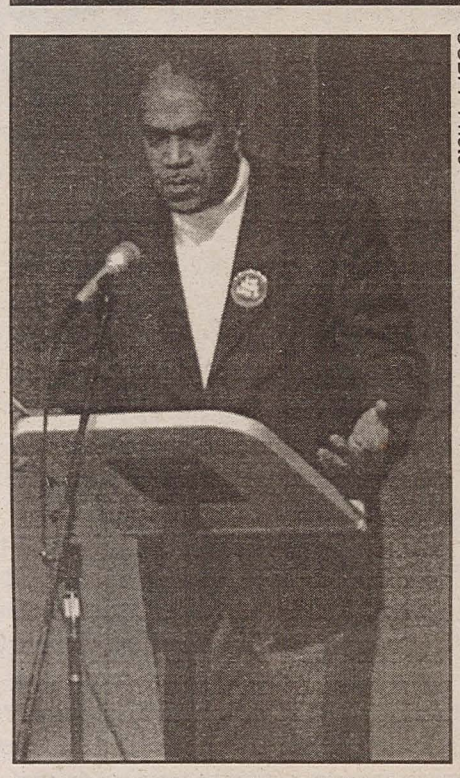
5th Annual Black History Month Labor College Celebration



CCBPP Photo

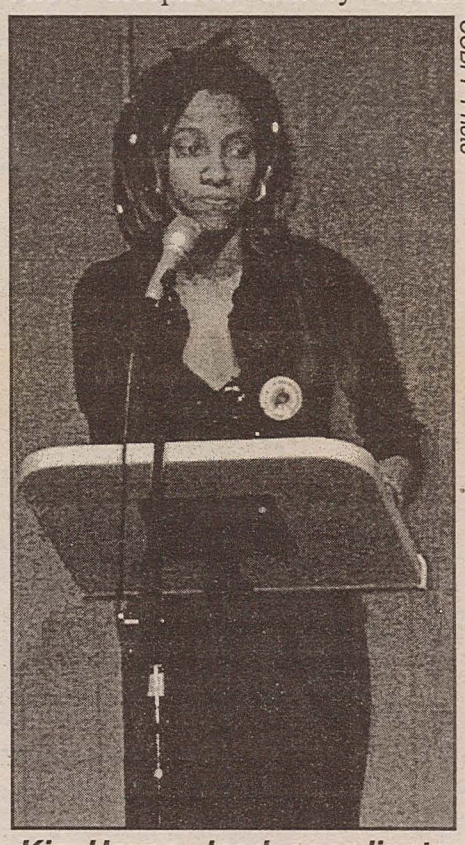
Pierre LaBossiere, Haitian American human rights activist

By Dave Heller

The Fifth Annual Black History Month Celebration, organized by the Commemoration Committee for the Black Panther Party (CCBPP), took place at the Black Repertory Theater on Sunday, February 9th. This event marked the Commemoration Committee's initiative to educate the community about the ways we can effectively organize against the social ills of illiteracy and poverty created by economic exploitation.

The ceremony, emceed by Melvin Dickson (CCBPP Chair), opened with the poetry of T.E.A.M. students from Street Academy. Gina Hill and T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Achieves More), an Oakland-based group that incorporates dance and Capoeira, read poetry honoring the legacy of Africans in the United States and the current situation of youth in urban and low-income communities.

Kia Hayes, a volunteer coordinator of CCBPP's Li'l Bobby Hutton Literacy Program, spoke about the ways that the government has neglected the education of its people. Hayes said, "One in five children in America are in a state of poverty. On average, every five minutes another child enters poverty. California spends 3.7 times more money per prisoner than pupil. Seventy percent of the prison population is functionally illiterate. Each year, one million children drop out of school. An estimated 50% of illiterate children have no books in their homes. In America, 90 million people are below acceptable literacy levels.



CCBPP Photo

Kia Hayes, lead coordinator for the Li'l Bobby Hutton Literacy Campaign.

CCBPP Photo

Members of T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Achieves More) Fuad Williams, Mercedes, Gina Hill, and Alison Hammond.

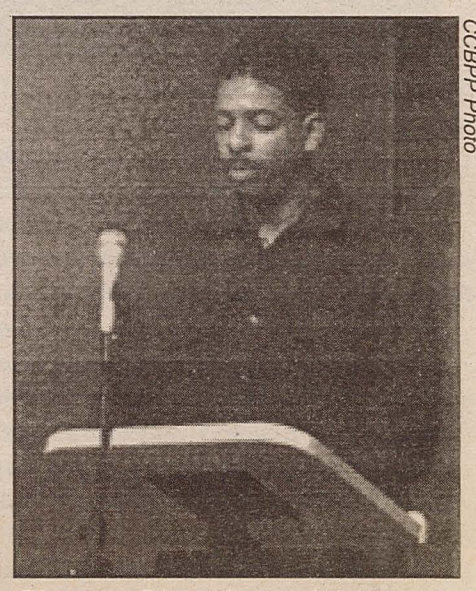
Globally, one in four people are illiterate, and of that group two thirds are women. Indeed, when one looks at the statistics and where the government allocates tax dollars, one can easily come to the conclusion that our government's inability to properly educate our children IS a form of terrorism."

Sheon Slaughter, a volunteer tutor with the Li'l Bobby Hutton Literacy Campaign, spoke about the future and the conditions young people face, and the need for communities to unite and organize to overcome some of the injustices African Americans, minorities, and poor people face, especially with all the economic cutbacks against education, while the government spends citizens' tax-dollars to fight an unjust war.

CCBPP Photo

Bernadette Ja'net, volunteer tutor (Li'l Bobby Hutton Literacy Campaign).

Pierre LaBossiere, longtime Haitian American activist, gave an informative political history of Haiti and the effects of the current U.S. sanctions. LaBossiere sees what is



CCBPP Photo

Sheon Slaughter (volunteer tutor) speaks on the need to get serious and organize to change the system of oppression.

needed for Haiti's immediate future is 1) the passing of Representative Barbara Lee's resolution, H.C.R. 78, which would end the economic aid embargo. Since the election of President Aristide in 2000 the United States government has enforced an economic aid embargo intended to starve the Haitian government. The

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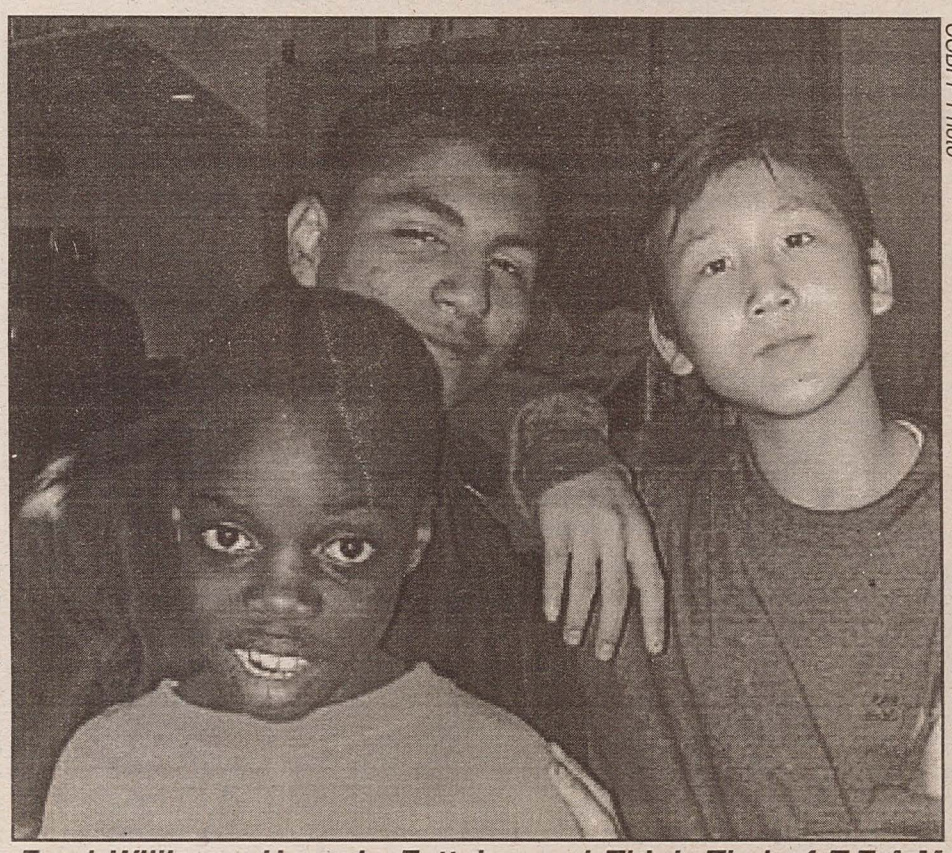

CCBPP Photo

Fuad Williams, Hussein Fattahy, and Thinh Thai of T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Achieves More) participate in the CCBPP 5th Anniversary event at the Black Rep.

Got History?

For further reading on the history of Haiti, the following books have been recommended by Haitian national Pierre LaBossiere.

Historical Non-Fiction:

Eyes of the Heart: Seeking a path for the poor in an age of Globalization by Jean-Bertrand Aristide, Common Courage Press, 2001

The Rainy Season: Haiti Since Duvalier by Amy Wilentz, Touchstone Books, 1990 (Reprint edition).

The Black Jacobins: Toussaint L'Ouverture & the Santo Domingo Revolution by Cyril Lionel Robert James, Original Edition published 1938.

Fiction:

Masters of the Dew by Jacques Roumain, originally published 1944, English translation by Langston Hughes and Mercer Cook. Paperback available by Heinemann Press.

Haiti: Harvest of Hope: A Video by Kevin Pena, available at Global Exchange Fair Trade stores http://store.globalexchange.org/harvest.html.

Letter to the Editor

U.S. With More Nuclear Weapons than the World Combined

Dear Editor:

The bombardment of Iraq has begun. The initial Pentagon plan to "shock and awe" the Iraqi people into surrender has actually worked against the U.S. military. The continued civilian casualties are rarely mentioned in the Pentagon briefings. The Bush doctrine of empire and conquest threatens the people of the world in a way never before imagined. The new policy of preemption states that the U.S. will strike any nation that threatens U.S. hegemony and or military dominance. The U.S. has always carried out imperialist wars to ensure its control over regional resources and advance international capitalist dominance, but never before has any administration gone so far as to initiate preemptive strikes on nations that have done nothing except attempt to build a strong defense.

Moreover, the Bush administration has included in this doctrine the right to use nuclear weapons against any nation that attempts to develop these weapons in order to protect itself against U.S. aggression. What hypocrisy is this – the one remaining superpower with more nuclear weapons than the rest of the world combined would then punish any other nation attempting to defend its integrity against the United States' aggression? Bush is now pouring vast sums of money into the repair of the U.S. nuclear arsenal and the development of new, so called low-yield nuclear weapons. This administration has thumbed its nose at world opinion, abrogating international non-proliferation treaties that had been in force for years.

There are rumors in the military that the U.S. will use chemical or biological weapons in Baghdad – and then turn around and blame it on Saddam Hussein. This would sway world opinion and give justification for the use of nuclear weapons against Iraq.

We must wake up and begin a serious struggle against this administration and the capitalist globalization that it represents. It is up to us to do it for ourselves, our children and the world. We can no longer afford to pretend that we are free to consume ourselves into stupor – if we do not organize now, there may soon be nothing left to fight for!

Yours in the struggle,

Georgia Minard

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Mother's Day Celebration

WHEN: Sunday May 10, 2003

WHERE: Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA

WHO: Healthy Oakland & The James A Watson Wellness Center, and the Pastors of Oakland

Activities: Free Gift Baskets, Health Screenings, and Mother's Day Presentation. For further information, call 510-858-7292 or e-mail healthyoakland@execs.com

Memorial Event: Stop The Violence

Sponsors: Black Men First, President: Bob Jackson, Vice President: Keith Mohammed.
President Bob jackson is asking the community to come together to honor the 113 homicide victims of 2002.
There will be gift baskets for the families of the victims, a prayer time and fellowship.
Sunday, May 10th at 11:00 am, Oakland City Hall.

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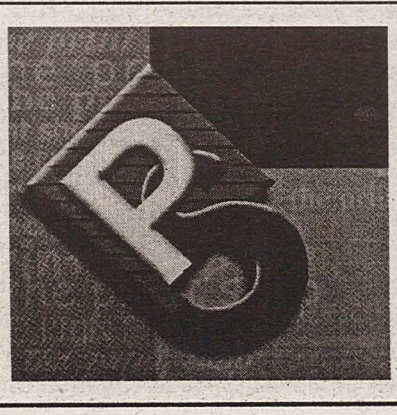

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Captive Audience

Urban Removal: Paving the Way for the Modern Police State

(Part Three)

By John Donner

Contraction of the above-ground economy triggers expansion of the underground economy, this in turn is a catalyst for phenomenal growth of the police, prison, criminal justice (under the iron heel), military industrial complex. There are more police, parole, and probation officers, more F.B.I., D.E.A, and B.A.T.F. agents, more department of social and child (so-called) protective services personnel in lower-income communities than any other sector of bourgeois society. All of this is part of the primary and auxiliary apparatus of the modern police state.

The National Criminal Justice Commission found that "In some inner-city areas, virtually every resident has a close relative and over 50 percent have a parent who is in prison, on probation, on parole, in jail, or in hiding because there is a warrant out for their arrest." There were 1,931,859 people in America's federal, state, and local prisons as of January 30, 2003. Minorities account for 79 percent of drug offenders in state prisons. America, with only 5 percent of the world's population, cages 25 percent of the world's prisoners.

The overwhelming majority of America's 2 million prisoners come from lower-income communities.

As of 1996, at least 75 to 80 percent of New York's state prisoners come from seven low income, inner-city, predominantly minority neighborhoods. If, for illustration purposes, we apply the government's 67 percent civilian labor force participation rate for 1996 to America's prison population, then about 1.3 million prisoners are eligible for work-force participation. At minimum wage based on a 40-hour workweek and 50-week work-year, 1.3 million prisoners would earn $13.65 billion in pre-tax income. The $13.65 billion figure represents the amount of earning potential now unavailable to the lower-income communities from where these prisoners were seized. In 1995, many nations had either gross national or gross domestic products of less than $13.65 billion.

Crime (as a by-product of economic warfare waged against lower-income communities) is a primary grand strategic weapon for both urban removal and the further concentration of economic wealth and political power into fewer ruling class super-wealthy hands. Crime provides the raison d'etre (justification) for the creation of special laws, new forms of criminal status, and for existing and newly created administrative agencies to extend their jurisdiction over more and more aspects of the lives of lower-income people first. Crime also provides the rationale for the use of government money to fund the extension of a de facto citizen's auxiliary police apparatus as the fifth column of America's modern community police state.

Gross National Product

Congo	$ 5 billion
Ethiopia	$ 5 billion
Kenya	$ 8 billion
Sri Lanka	$13 billion
Iceland	$ 6 billion
Luxembourg	$13 billion
Tanzania	$ 5 billion

Source: U.S. bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1997 (Table No(s). 1347 and 1348 at pp. 838, 839 [for the year 1995]

Deliberately letting the conditions that perpetuate crime go unabated for decades, has the double-planned effect of creating an exodus from lower-income communities of those people (human resources) who have the financial means, organization skills and political savvy to escape (rise not with but above their people), while property values are simultaneously driven down to bargain prices. Those left behind in the ghetto are the poorest, least organized, and most politically disenfranchised, who become victims of urban removal when the multinational developers, mortgage bankers, venture capitalists, wealthy landlords, huge general contractors, rich-connected real estate speculators, government and quasi-government agencies (e.g., H.U.D., G.N.M.A. [Ginnie-Mae], F.N.M.A. [Fannie-Mae]) using so-called community development corporations (CDC's) for cover and camouflage move in for the killing. As the next act in the tragic drama of urban removal unfolds, low income landlords, tenants, businesses, families, and community organizations are sent scurrying from wrecking balls, eviction, foreclosure, code violation fines, public and private liens, seizure by eminent domain and other tactics.

Black Panther Archives

In 1968 in Oakland California, the black working class community produced The Free Huey Movement that was synonymous with an elimination of class and racial oppression.

It is the new millennium poverty pimp vogue to incorporate and operate government-funded (in whole or in part) community development corporations. The true and potential nature of these CDC's as community police state apparatus is self-evident, in part, by their appearance under Subpart 2 (Emerging Community Development Corporations) at Part G of the Subchapter II (Crime Prevention) under Chapter 136 (Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement) of Title 42 of the United States Code.

Applicants (including CDC's) who seek Part B. (Local Crime Prevention Block Grant Program) government funding from the Ounce of Prevention Council under Part A of Subchapter II of Chapter 136 of the United States Code "must demonstrate that a broad base of collaboration and coordination will occur in the implementation of the proposed activities involving cooperation among. . . law enforcement professionals, local government, and residents of target areas." Substantial sums of government funding (co-optation money) are available within the context of so-called social engineering to recruit and enlist certain community elements as pseudo-police agencies, intelligence gathering, and tactical-operational modern community police state assets.

A careful and honest reading of the Black Panther Party 10-Point Program: What We Want, What We Believe, makes it clear it is not only the sole basis for community vitalization that really makes sense, but it is also the sole basis for eradicating the conditions tantamount to genocide that comprise the daily reality of life in our oppressed communities.

The bedrock foundation on which community life must rest cannot exist without a living (adequate) community income base. The infrastructure necessary to guarantee living income (including adequate benefits) must necessarily be the cornerstone of any community vitalization plan (rural, suburban, or urban). Urban so-called renewal predicated on anything else is just an elaborate con game in which the removal of lower-income people, families, tenants, landlords, businesses, and community organizations is a fait accompli (done deal).

A careful and honest reading of the Black Panther Party 10-Point Program: What We Want, What We Believe, makes it clear it is not only the sole basis for community vitalization that really makes sense, but it is also the sole basis for eradicating the conditions tantamount to genocide that comprise the daily reality of life in our oppressed communities. Although each point of the 10-Point Program applies with full force within the urban removal context (and otherwise) the first point sums it up:

1. WE WANT FREEDOM; WE WANT POWER TO DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

We believe that Black and oppressed people will not be free until we are able to determine our destinies in our own communities ourselves, by fully controlling all the institutions that exist in our communities.

POVERTY/CRIME/ POLITICAL ECONOMIC

- Special criminal and quasi-criminal status and laws enacted. Insurance rates increased, as are taxes (in order to offset costs of funding the police state presence of new and expanded old administrative agencies).

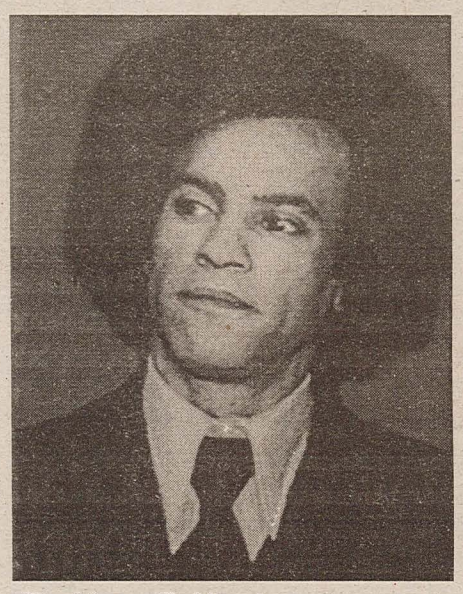
- Administrative agencies created with new police and quasi-police powers.

Continued on page 15

Archives

RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENT TO THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

Huey's Corner



Dr. Huey P. Newton

Editor's Note: The following article is a continuation from January, 2003, taken from Dr. Huey P. Newton's 1977 Ph.D. dissertation on the History of Consciousness. The Thesis was recently published by the Huey P. Newton Foundation *in a book called* The War Against the Panthers: A Study of Oppression in America, *(Writers and Readers, 1999), and is available at your local bookstore.*

From the following piece Dr. Newton documents and depicts the FBI campaign, headed by its director, J. Edgar Hoover (who personally directed the campaign against Huey), to discredit him and undermine the Panther movement.

Discrediting Newton

Leaders of the BPP were frequently targeted as snitches or sell-outs by the FBI in an effort to discredit or bring harm to them, especially Huey Newton. Upon Newton's release from prison in 1970, for instance, after a Court of Appeal reversed his conviction for manslaughter in the alleged shooting of an Oakland policeman, a memorandum from the FBI Director instructed FBI field offices across the country to formulate COINTELPRO actions directed against Newton. FBI Headquarters would direct the campaign; its contours were defined as follows:

To demythicise [sic] Newton, to hold him up to ridicule, and to tarnish his image among BPP members can serve to weaken BPP solidarity and disrupt its revolutionary and violent aims. [COINTELPRO actions] should have the 3-pronged effect of creating divisiveness among BPP members concerning Newton, treat him in a flippant and irreverent manner, and insinuate that he has been cooperating with police to gain his release from prison.[43]

Within a week, the New York FBI field office had drawn up three phony letters which attempted to discredit Newton. One message, to be mailed to the New York office of the Black Panther Party by the San Francisco FBI field office, read as follows:

Brothers,

I am employed by the State of California and have been close to Huey Newton while he was in jail.

Let me warn you that this pretty nigger may very well be working for pig Reagan. I don't know why he was set free but I am suspicious. I got this idea because he had privileges in jail like the trustees get. He had a lot of privacy most prisoners don't get. I don't think all his private meetings were for sex. I am suspicious of him.

Don't tell Newton too much if he starts asking you questions — it may go right back to the pigs

Power to the People[44]

FBI Headquarters regarded this anonymous letter as "excellent" but cautioned: "Take usual precautions to insure letters cannot be traced to Bureau. Advise Bureau and interested offices of positive results achieved."[45]

The Philadelphia FBI field office prepared and sent to Newton a fictitious Black Panther Party directive, supposedly prepared by the Philadelphia Black Panther office, which questioned Newton's leadership abilities; accompanying it was a cover letter purportedly from an anonymous Party supporter accusing the Philadelphia chapter of "slandering its leaders in private."[46] FBI Headquarters, in approving this operation, noted that prior COINTELPRO action which "anonymously advised the national headquarters that food, clothing and drugs collected for BPP community programs were being stolen by BPP members" had resulted in criticism of the Philadelphia chapter by the national office, transfer of members, "and the national office has even considered closing the Philadelphia chapter." The memorandum concluded: "We want to keep this dissension going."[47]

Black Panther Archives

1972, Oakland, California: Black Panther Party Revolutionary Youth Institute.

The Los Angeles FBI office suggested that a death threat against Newton be sent to Black Panther leader David Hilliard, purportedly from a contract killer.[48] FBI Headquarters stopped this action, however, in the belief that if Newton were to be murdered then, the letter might be traced to the Bureau by postal authorities.[49]

When Angela Davis, then one of the FBI's "ten most wanted" fugitives, was arrested in New York City in mid-October 1970 and charged with conspiracy in the Marin County Courthouse incident, the FBI falsely tried to cast Newton as the "fingerman:"

In view of the fact that there is suspicion in the Negro [sic] community that DAVIS was "set," NYO suggests that HUEY NEWTON... be cast in the light as "fingerman." If such a ploy could be successfully carried out it might result in disruption in the Black Nationalist field as well as divorcing BPP from CPUSA and Militant New Left groups.[50]

One handwritten letter was sent to Ebony magazine by the Chicago FBI field office, "mailed from a Negro [sic] area." It read as follows:

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As of this writing, our lovely Sister Angela languishes in jail and her chances of freedom seem remote. She's got to pay the man, right? But the question I put to you is: Who did the money pay?

You know and I know the pigs can't come up with a Black in a Black community just by driving around the streets and hassling the Brothers. I tell you that Sister Davis would still be free if her capture was left to the federal pigs alone. Of course, it was not that way at all. There was bread — lots of pure cash rye — put into an eager black hand that in turn twisted the knife of treachery in our Sister's back.

Now, the big question is who? Who was the cat who dishonored his skin and took the 30 pieces of silver?

Some of the west coast cats are looking hard at Brother Newton. Shit, you say, Huey would never sell out to pig country. He's a dedicated Nationalist, leader of the Brothers and Sisters and a cat with real soul. Maybe it's bullshit, but let's look at Huey a little closer. He gets sprung from a stiff rap in August. The man suddenly turns kind and sets our Brother free. In that same month Sister Angela is among the missing as the result of a frame the pigs laid on her. What did Huey give for the sunlight and flowers? Or better still, what did the man give sweet Huey? How come Huey's size 12 mouth has been zippered since our Sister's bust? Nothing, he says. Absolutely nothing. Not one appeal for justice. No TV, no papers, no radio, no nothing. He got five grand, so the cats say. It's enough to make a man wonder. Wouldn't be surprised if Huey didn't split the scene soon. I, for one, will be most interested.

A Friend of Sister Angela[51]

Another handwritten letter was mailed to the *Village Voice* newspaper by the New York FBI field office:

Sister Angela is in jail. Poindexter is free. Huey Newton is free. David P. is a dumb-head and a hop-head. Forget him. But Huey is smart. Gets along well with the MAN. The question is: Did this cat bank five big bills lately ... as a gift from the federal pigs?

Concerned Brother[52]

The Bureau did not miss any chance to further its "disinformation" campaign. Later, in the fall of 1970, the San Francisco FBI field office sent an unsigned letter, purportedly from a "white revolutionary," to Newton criticizing the Party-sponsored Revolutionary People's Constitutional Convention: "You," the letter concluded, "must be held responsible for this fiasco and it is due to your total incompetence for selecting stupid

Continued on page 18

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Proposal for Bay Area Peace Economy

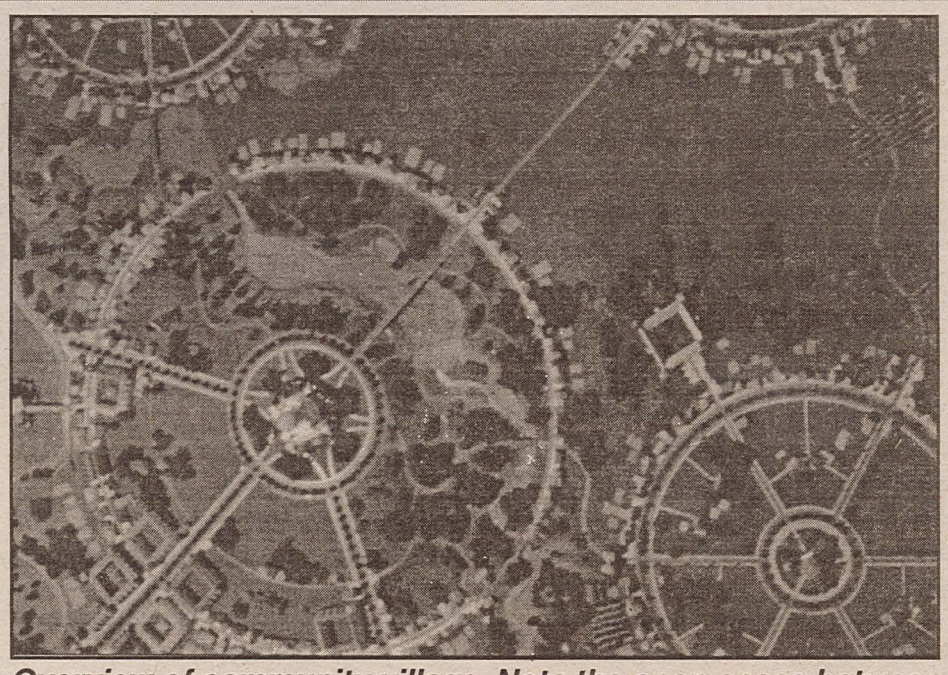
WE WANT LAND, BREAD, HOUSING, EDUCATION, CLOTHING, JUSTICE, PEACE AND PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CONTROL OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY. "When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation," *excerpted from the United States' Declaration of Independence, 1776:*

BPP'S POINT # 10: BLACK PANTHER PARTY 10-POINT PROGRAM, OCTOBER 1966

In keeping with the chaordic principle that we resolve conflict creatively and cooperatively without physical, economic, psychological, social or ecological violence, I propose that a relationship of cultural and economic exchange also be established with Kabul, Afghanistan, the first recipient of American bombing raids.

We live in a region named for Francis of Assisi, a man who prayed "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace, where there is hatred let me sow love." In that spirit, I would like to offer an outline for developing a Peace Economy in the San Francisco Bay Area that invites the participation of numerous individuals, agencies, and organizations. In this proposal I have utilized some of the principles of practice and organization developed by the Chaordic Commons and recommend the use of that organization's resources in developing this proposal. I begin with the chaordic premise that those of us interested in a sustainable peace economy will work to ensure that all people, by right of birth, have adequate necessities of life, including clean air, water, food, and shelter; an equitable share of wealth and resources; and opportunity to develop their full physical, mental, and spiritual potential. With this in mind I invite Northern California members of Sister Cities International to call upon their respective city governments to openly endorse the principles of practice and organization formulated by the Chaordic Commons and to apply for membership to that organization, either individually, or collectively as an Alliance for a Bay Area Peace Economy.

In keeping with the chaordic principle that we work to ensure that human capacities, technologies, and organizations sustain and support, not systemically alter, degrade, or destroy the Earth, its diversity of life, or life support systems, I propose that this Alliance establish sister city relationships with the Mondragon region of Spain and the Ladakh region of India. Mondragon has one of the most sophisticated networks of worker-owned co-operatives in the world characterized by premier technical schools. Ladakh offers a model for ecologically appropriate technology. Cultural ties with Mondragon can be strengthened by the participation of the Network of Bay Area Worker Collectives in this Alliance. Ties with Ladakh can be facilitated by the participation of the International Society for Ecology and Culture. Other groups whose participation should be welcomed include the Sustainable Business Alliance and Global Exchange. It may also prove beneficial to invite the Mondragon Corporation Cooperativa to accept formal membership in the Chaordic Commons.



Overview of community village. Note the open space between the rings which may be used for agriculture, forest, recreation, or natural habitat.

In keeping with the chaordic principle that we resolve conflict creatively and cooperatively without physical, economic, psychological, social or ecological violence, I propose that a relationship of cultural and economic exchange also be established with Kabul, Afghanistan, the most recent recipient of American bombing raids. One organization whose participation in this effort I would strongly encourage is the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan. Together, I believe the residents of the San Francisco Bay Area, Mondragon, Kabul, and Ladakh can develop new models for peaceful, equitable, economic and cultural exchange between diverse peoples.

I would also like to suggest that a truly sustainable peace economy requires an examination and elucidation of the relationship of the individual to money. With this in mind, I suggest establishing a sister city relationship with Yamato, Japan as well. City officials there have distributed smart cards to 73,000 residents in an experimental local electronic currency system that allows participants to gain purchasing power through volunteer social welfare activities. Similar systems are in development here in the Bay Area through proposed collaborations between the BREAD local currency, the Friendly Favors internet social network, and the Interra Project of Greg Steltenpohl, co-founder of Odwalla Juice Inc. who has worked closely with Dee Hack, CEO Emeritus of VISA and co-founder of the Chaordic Commons. I propose that this developing local electronic and paper currency system be adopted by the Alliance as a complement to Federal currency. The shared capital pool which this system creates can be used to stimulate research and development of solar and hydrogen power and water desalinization by worker-owned co-operative companies. This can lessen the devastating impact of current oil wars and future water wars. I also hope to stimulate a dawning awareness among individual human beings in the Bay Area and elsewhere that they have no moral or legal obligation to pay a tax that will be used to destroy the lives of fellow human beings living elsewhere in the world. Hence, I propose further collaboration in this Alliance by members of Not In Our Name, War Tax Resisters League, California Peace Action, Food Not Bombs, American Friends Service Committee, and the National Institute for Taxpayer Education. Together, we can create a world without any need for greed or hunger. To do this requires that we begin using our time, energy, and money as an instrument of our will to love one another.

LOCAL CONTACTS:

Peace Action:
1-510-849-2272
North/Cal-SisterCities International:
1-650-871-4161.
Chaordie Commons:
1-415 457-3670.
Network of Bay Area Worker Collectives:
1-510-549-1514.
International Society for Ecology and Culture:
1-510-548-4915.
Sustainable Business Alliance:
1-510-282-5151.
Global Exchange:
1-415-255-7296.
B.R.E.A.D.:
1-510-644-0376.
Not In Our Name:
1-510-444-6466.
American Friends Service Committee:
1-415-565-0201.
Food Not Bombs:
1-510-644-4187

Please e-mail constructive criticism to Jim Burr at jtburr@hotmail.com

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POINT # 2: BLACK PANTHER PARTY 10-POINT PROGRAM, OCTOBER 1966

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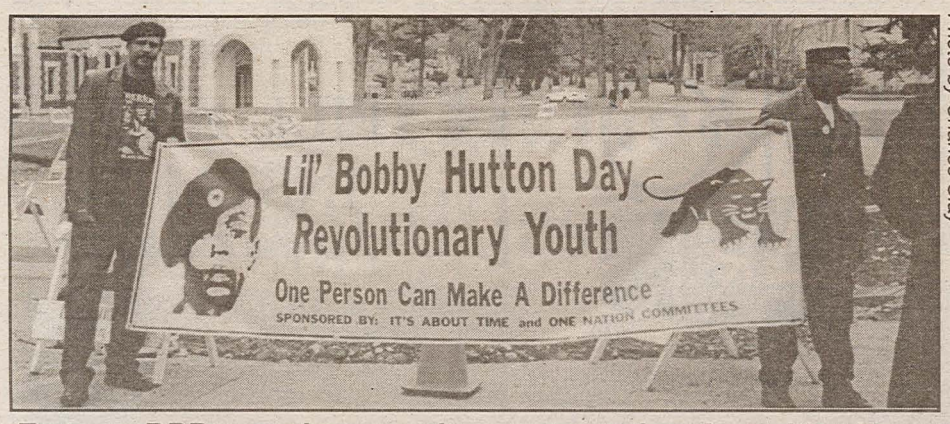

Lil' Bobby Hutton Day
Revolutionary Youth
One Person Can Make A Difference
SPONSORED BY: IT'S ABOUT TIME and ONE NATION COMMITTEES

Photo by Charles Slay

Former BPP members and representative from It's About Time participated at the February 15, 2003, Ceremony.

Bobby Hutton Remembrance

Continued from page 1

population of 395,000, more than 85,000 adults are functionally illiterate, and Oakland is only the tip of the iceberg.

Reflecting: Back in the Day

On May 2, 1967, alongside BPP co-founder, Bobby Seale, and a BPP delegation, Li'l Bobby marched on the California state Capitol where Bobby Seale read to the press Executive Mandate Number One, which demanded the rights for black communities to defend themselves from increased police brutality and murder.

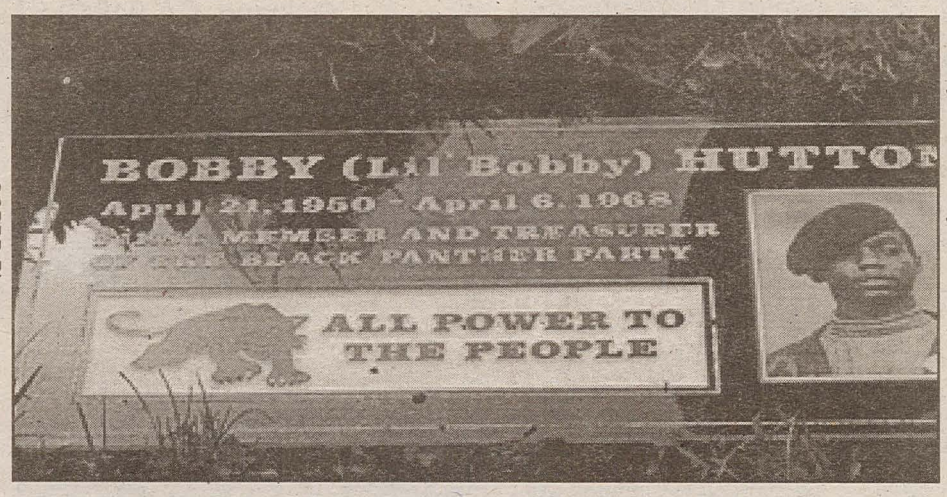
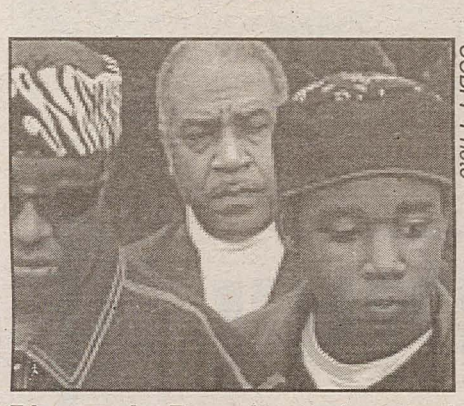


Photo by Charles Slay

The headstone at the gravesite of Li'l Bobby at Oakland, California's Mountain View Cemetery.



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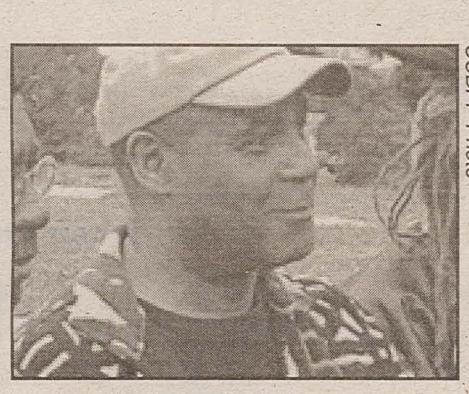
Pierre LaBossiere (center) stands behind Michael Strong, Senior, and Michael Jr.



CCBPP Photo

Emory Douglas, former BPP Minister of Culture, joined in the ceremony.

CCBPP Photo

Former Black Panther members, supporters, volunteers and admirers, above and below hold hands in honor of Li'l Bobby.

CCBPP Photo

Joyce Hutton, the niece of Li'l Bobby with her children, comments at the gravesite, thanking everyone who came out to show respect for her late uncle.

CCBPP Photo

Among those who paid tribute to Li'l Bobby, were former BPP members Ellis White, William Jenning (Billy X) and Santa Rita (rear).

CCBPP Photo

Former BPP members, Jimmy Slater and Terry Cotton greet Ruth Villa (Mother Jones), who is 96 years old, and a very longtime BPP supporter.

CCBPP Photo

Artist, sculptor, Cheryl Parkins produced the headstone as "a work of love ."

BPP Archive

May 2nd, 1967, Li'l Bobby leads delegation to state Capitol in Sacramento, California to protest police brutality.

CCBPP Photo

Jonathan Gardner, CCBPP Volunteer Coordinator, attended the February 15, 2003, historic ceremony.

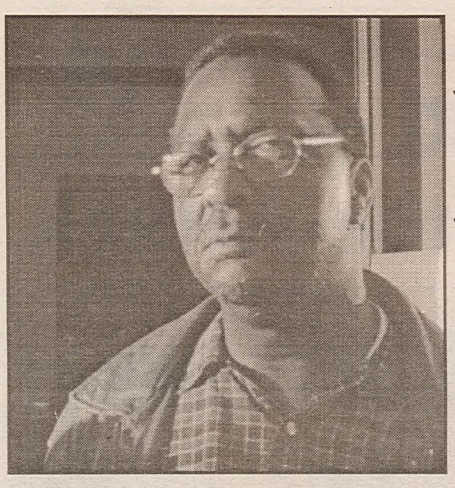


Photo by Charles Slay

Bobby Coleman, BPP founding member, and a personal friend of Li'l Bobby, "When all's said and done, Li'l Bobby knew the fundamental difference between "All Power to the People," and "All power to the pig system."

"As the aggression of the racist American government escalates in Vietnam, the police agencies of America escalate the repression of black people throughout the ghettos of America. Vicious police dogs, cattle prods, and increased patrols have become familiar sights in Black communities," The Black Panther News Service, Executive Mandate Number One, by Dr. Huey P. Newton, May 1967.

Those were some very intense and volatile times. The party leadership was largely locked up, or on the run, or under attack by the political police, and for some reason or another, the community and party failed to follow-up after his funeral to provide Li'l Bobby with a headstone.

Commemoration Committee lives up to its name

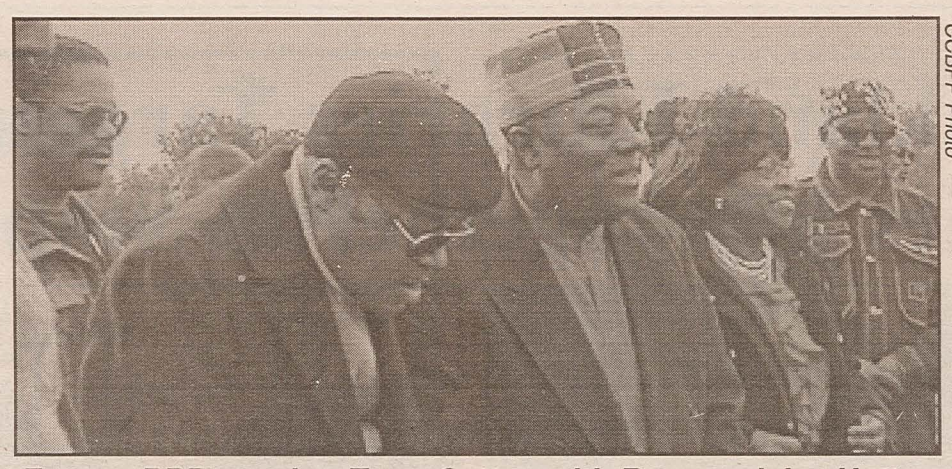
"When we learned that Li'l Bobby's gravesite lacked a headstone, we were simply embarrassed, so we decided to do something about it," stated Melvin Dickson, CCBPP chairman. CCBPP sponsored the campaign whereby hundreds of people worked to put together the resources to honor the first martyr of the Black Panther Party.

"I want to thank everybody who put in all the hours of work and made sacrifices. I'm sure Bobby would be pleased with this," the assemblage of those coming to pay tribute were told by the Reverend Jay Hutton, Li'l Bobby's elder brother.

"I met a 14-year-old youth while I was in Philadelphia years ago who was inspired to join the Black Panther Party because of Li'l Bobby, and that youth was Mumia Abu-Jamal," stated Emory Douglas, former Black Panther Party Minister of Culture. "Li'l Bobby was just like any other youth, who liked to kid around, but the difference: Li'l Bobby was serious about the liberation of his people from police brutality, poverty, oppression. He was ready to do whatever had to be done."

Tributes from family, friends and comrades

Tarika Lewis, former Black Panther Party member (the first female to join the organization), commented at the gravesite and played a piece by jazz musician, McCoy Tyner, a member of the late and legendary John Coltrane band. "Li'l Bobby and I was the same age and had the same birthday…and, of course, I had a crush on him and was a little jealous of Evelyn (his girlfriend)."



CCBPP Photo

Former BPP member Terry Cotton with Reverend Jay Hutton, the elder brother of Lil Bobby, at gravesite.

Other family members and comrades commented and pointed out how Li'l Bobby inspired them to struggle for freedom and liberation, because Li'l Bobby courageously fought to organize the black community for self-defense and community control. Li'l Bobby's life, as well as his death, were not in vain. His spirit lives.

"I was not born at the time, but I respect what he stood for and I am proud that he was my uncle, and will teach my children about what he died for," stated Joyce Hutton, Li'l Bobby's niece.

"Li'l Bobby was just like any other youth," Emory Douglas former BPP Minister of Culture

Today we try to recognize and analyze the social conditions, and organize based on that understanding: The Li'l Bobby Hutton Literacy Campaign draws inspiration from the legacy of the Black Panther Party, because Li'l Bobby, like many other oppressed people, taught himself to read despite the negligence of the public school system, stated Dickson. "The Commemoration Committee for the Black Panther Party volunteer staff thanks everybody who volunteered to make the ceremony and commemoration happen, to those who donated their time and money to acquire the headstone.

A special thanks to Bobby Coleman and to Terry Cotton who both designed the headstone and knew Li'l Bobby personally. Another special thanks to Cheryl Parkins, a local artist, who sculpted the headstone and contributed by facilitating the placing of the monument at Mountain View Cemetery."

All Power to the People

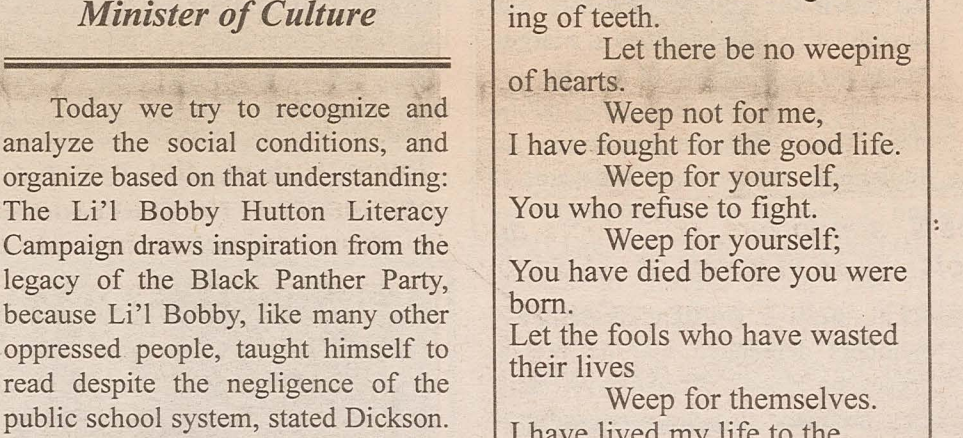
CCBPP Photo

Melvin Dickson, CCBPP Chairman, reads poem, "Weep Not for Me," at Li'l Bobby's gravesite.

Weep Not for Me

If I die,
Let me swiftly through the night.
Let there be no wailing at the gates.
Let there be no gnashing of teeth.
Let there be no weeping of hearts.
Weep not for me,
I have fought for the good life.
Weep for yourself,
You who refuse to fight.
Weep for yourself;
You have died before you were born.
Let the fools who have wasted their lives
Weep for themselves.
I have lived my life to the fullest
Weep not for me.
Don't cry over my death;
Cry over your life.
Cry over your refusal to live.
Weep not for me.
But for yourself.
If I die,
Let me go swiftly through the night.
Let there be no wailing at the gates.
Let there be no gnashing of teeth.
Let there be no weeping of hearts.

All Power to the People
By Dr. Tolbert Small



CCBPP Photo

Charles Akins (center) longtime friend of the Hutton family, has lunch with Rev. Jay Hutton at the office of the Commemorator newspaper.

Courtesy of Kathleen Cleaver

Kathleen Cleaver, Attorney and former Communication Secretary for the Black Panther Party.

February 15, 2003

Statement: Placing of Headstone for Bobby James Hutton

I regret not being able to participate in this momentous event, but today I am here with our brothers and sisters in Arusha, Tanzania. The laying of the headstone at the grave of Li'l Bobby – our fallen warrior who gave the best of his life to win the liberation of his people – is a bittersweet moment. We need to pause to appreciate it, and to think back to where each of us was that dark night of April 6, 1968, when he was shot down by Oakland police bullets.

We who survived those battlefields remain indebted to our sisters and brothers who are no longer with us, both the departed and the imprisoned, and to our fugitive and enslaved ancestors whose fighting spirit guided our course. It's good that we come together to honor and to continue that attitude of devotion, love and sacrifice which Li'l Bobby personifies.

I thank the Creator for providing us with this headstone, for protecting all of you that have come to honor the memory of our young comrade, and for giving all of us courage in the days ahead.

All Power to the People
Kathleen Cleaver

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Oakland Libraries Targeted – Communities join together to Stop the Attack

Courtesy of Victoria Kelly

Youth rallying at Oakland Public Library main facility on February 6th to protest proposed cuts in library services. Students from Oakland Unified School District's Environmental Studies Program turned out en masse.

Courtesy of Victoria Kelly

Prescott Middle School sent clowns to rally for libraries.

Courtesy of Victoria Kelly

Teen services were cut in the recent fight for libraries.

In January, the City of Oakland began cutting services to make up for its $20 million budget deficit. The Oakland Public Library, which represents only 2% of Oakland's budget, was asked to cut a disproportionate $2.1 million. Citizens fought back. The Save-Our-Library committee formed in the face of the Oakland city government proposing to close libraries throughout Oakland:

"Whoever heard of a community providing a future by firing teachers and closing its community libraries?" stated Victoria Kelly (Save-Our-Library) to *The Commemorator.*

Oakland City Librarian Carmen Martinez proposed to implement the $2 million cut by permanently closing libraries in the most economically fragile neighborhoods including West Oakland, Brookfield, Elmhurst, Melrose, and Martin Luther King, Jr. (at International Blvd. and 68th St.). Other targets were Piedmont Avenue, Temescal, Golden Gate, and Lakeview branches. These were to be *permanent* closures.

Library administrators explained the choices of branch closures by citing circulation as the primary factor. They also spoke obliquely of a "regional branch library system" — something about which no one on the City Council had any knowledge, and something which has since been shouted down by citizens. The "regional system" would involve closing down the smaller branches and consolidating library forces in a larger, "more accessible" part of the city.

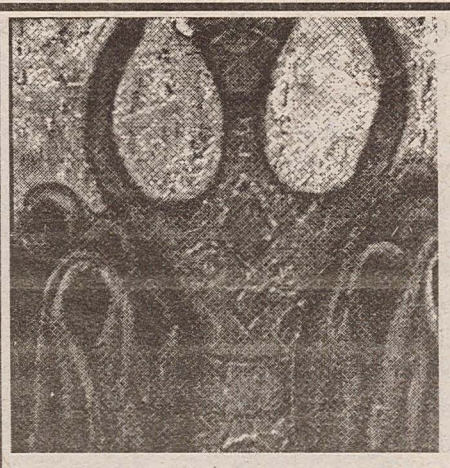
The vocal and fast-acting public cited the City's responsibility to implement library bond measures O and I passed overwhelmingly by Oakland citize ns in 1994 and 1996. At every public meeting or hearing, vocal, active, militant community members demanded that no branch library be closed. Armed with facts, they protested that the proposed cuts didn't reflect the number of children or the communities being served by the libraries and argued that the one tool used for measuring a branch's usefulness, circulation, gave a skewed picture. Task forces proved the case for how the removal of branch libraries would be devastating for schools, students, seniors, computer users, job seekers, the disabled, and other groups.

Within three weeks of the original proposed cut, City Manager Robert Bobb reduced his proposal to the Sum of $865,0000, and announced that no branch will be closed and no services cut for the remaining fiscal year, through the end of June 2003.

Instead, cuts from the Library came from the Main branch. They included removal of a librarian from the busy children's room, the Volunteer Coordinator, Teen services, and from the African American Museum and Library of Oakland (AAMLO). The frozen book budget was partially restored by City taking reductions in other departments (Auditing and Personnel).

The public, expecting state and city budget shortfalls to continue beyond this current fiscal year, remains poised to fight City Hall again. The programs and services provided by the branch libraries are basic services, and the success of the libraries directly affects the success of Oakland. In April, Bobb will introduce a new library budget for fiscal years 2003- 2005. Citizens should be prepared to respond when this budget becomes public.

All Power to the People



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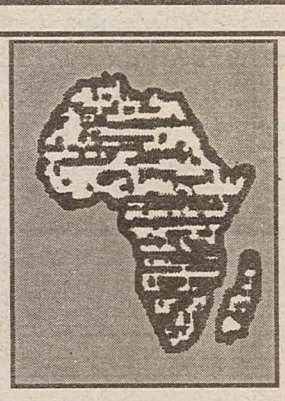

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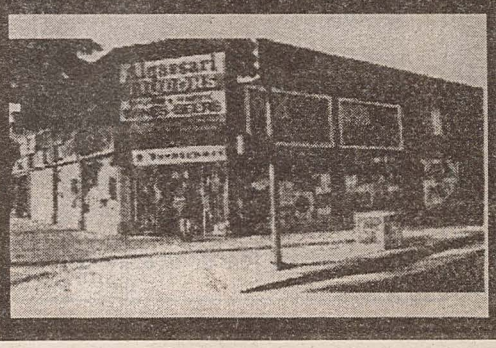

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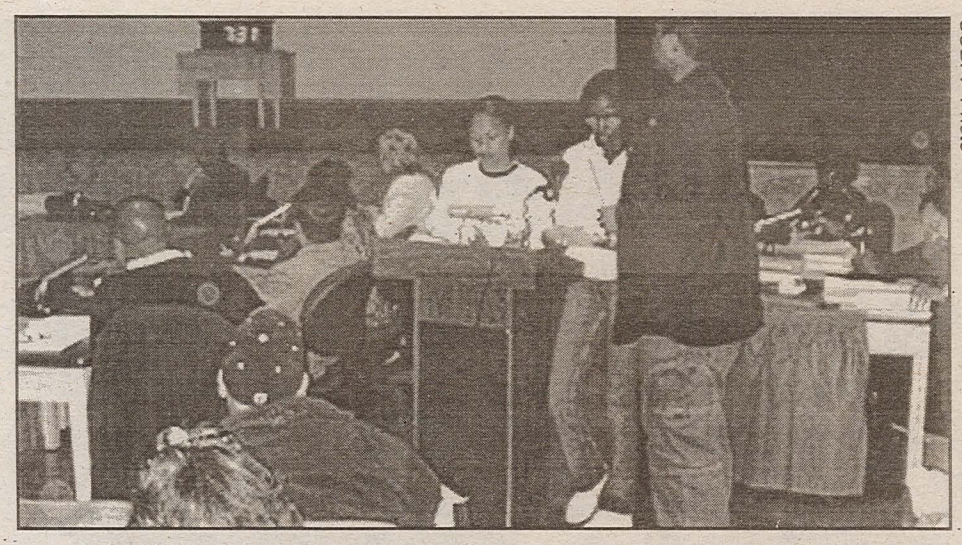

CCBPP Photo

Students at Oakland McClymonds HS present to Oakland School Board members with a complaint about increased costs for student dances. In addition to the standard $400 fee, they are now expected to pay the Oakland Police Dept. $1500 to pay for additional police coverage during the dance.

Education: Under Attack

Continued from page 1

approve sending out layoff letters to some 1,056 teachers and staff. One board member, Noel Gallo, dissented.

More than 1,000 Oakland teachers and other "non-classified" staff employees received letters warning them they may be laid off and many of these likely will be laid off at the end of the school year, according to Quintana. Not a single cut has been mentioned from among the ranks of 37 school district administrators who earn more than $100,000 a year, nor has School Superintendent Dennis Chaconas offered to reduce his $240,000 a year salary. "Where is the sharing of responsibility here?" posed Quintana. "Why must the teachers accept cuts and no mentioning of cutting these salaries of OUSD members?"

While more and more tax money is spent on the so-called war against terrorism, and the government's so-called Homeland Security program, the California budget, especially the public educational system, faces increasing disaster. The Oakland school district has been variously reported to have a debt of as much as $100 million and has been threatened by the State with being taken over and put into receivership, effectively eliminating any vestige or pretense of local autonomy in education.

The OUSD holds that the district needs to reduce its spending from a projected $312 million to $248 million — a $64 million difference to stay out of the red.

On March 3, the board approved $17.2 million in cuts. "We have to balance the budget, or it will just get worse every year," Chaconas stated at a town hall meeting at the East Oakland, African-American, Allan Temple Baptist Church that endorsed Chaconas' and the OUSD plan. OUSD based its decision on the menace that unless they overcame a $64 million shortfall, the state threatened to take over the district, eliminating a need for an OUSD.

On March 17, in Sacramento, at the Capitol, some 10,000 students and faculty members participated in a mass rally and demonstration called "Keep the Doors Open."

"Commemoration Committee for the Black Panther Party stands for the implementation of the original BPP 10-Point Program, which says that we believe that Black and oppressed people will not be free until we are able to determine our destinies in our own communities ourselves by fully controlling all the institutions that exist in our communities," stated Melvin Dickson, Commemoration Committee for the Black Panther Party (CCBPP) Chairman "In order to pay for their oil-grabbing war, the capitalist rulers are stealing money from our children's education and jumping-jack politicians and yes men/women are going right along with it by enforcing the cuts that harm our children. 'Just following orders' has not been accepted as an excuse since the Nuremberg trials after World War II."

It's No Wonder

"With the Oakland public school system irresponsibly spending $50 million of taxpayers' money in 2001-2002 for consulting, it's no wonder there is not enough money to pay for toilet paper and books for students, and a living wage salary for teachers," President of the Oakland Education Association (OEA) Sheila Quintana told the Commemorator. "They spend $50 million for consulting — something that we [OEA] do free! There are other kinds of things that are a lower priority as compared to cutting student services and the layoff of teachers. For instance, some $26 million is spent on non-essentials: advertisement, legal department, non-public schools, elections, admissions fees, cell phones and pagers, and satellite cable."

In a letter sent recently to Oakland Unified School District Superintendent Dennis Chaconas, Ms. Quintana pointed to some alternatives where the District could find money to avoid cuts that directly harm the students.

1) An immediate across the board 30% cut in salary and benefits of all OUSD employees making over $100,000 per year.

2) Increase ADA (Average Daily Attendance reimbursements) by 5% at all sites — up to $20 million.

3) Eliminate/reduce consultants and subcontracting out — up to $30 million.

4) Eliminate state testing in 1st grade.

The Role of Government in Creating Poverty

Poor communities and people of color suffer daily throughout this nation — now empire — from the effects of a government that invests more in creating conditions of abject poverty. "An estimated 90 million Americans do not possess the basic literacy skills to fill out a job application," stated Kia Hayes, coordinator for the Li'l Bobby Hutton Literacy Campaign. "There are more job opportunities for police officers than teachers!

"As a result of this nation's plan to contain the poor and people of color inside its prisons rather than in schools and community building programs, the governing powers of the United States have kept generations poor and illiterate as a way to deny citizens the right of self-determination and education. More prisons have been built over the past five years than schools. We must understand that it is up to all of us to organize and fight against these conditions."

The Li'l Bobby Hutton Literacy Program will, as more volunteers join us to do the work, train as many people as possible to meet the need of literacy in our communities. A team of Li'l Bobby Hutton tutors in every community in need of reading and writing help can be achieved, as the masses join in the fight for progressive and revolutionary change. We must not only understand the ways to organize poor and oppressed communities, but the ways to educate and develop leadership in our communities. Li'l Bobby Hutton understood the value of organizing and education as he fought economic terrorism in his community in the 1960s.

Collectively, we can change our conditions. If you would like to join our Li'l Bobby Hutton Literacy Campaign as part of our fight to empower our poor and minority communities, please call Kia at 510- 652-7170.

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CCBPP Photo

February 16th anti-war rally at Civic Center, San Francisco. Volunteers Sheon Slaughter and Stephanie Leroux manned CCBPP literature table displaying Commemorator and Bobby Hutton literacy leaflet.

Photo by Kelly Dweller

Oakland, California, April 5, 2003, The Women in Black join other demonstrators to stand against US military intervention by dramatizing the slaughter of people in Iraq.

Bush War for Capitalism

Continued from page 2

Spectrum 7. That firm failed as well, but was bailed out at the last minute by Harken Energy in 1986.

Harken Energy was a small company, owned and controlled by friends of Bush's father with ties to Middle-East oil interests and production. George W. was made a company director and took out loans in order to buy 1.5 million shares of Harken stock, making him the company's third largest non-institutional stockholder. He was also paid as a consultant to the firm.

George W. left Harken to help his father's campaign, and soon after that Harken was awarded an exclusive contract with Bahrain. Harken Oil was a small firm which had no experience in offshore drilling, and it is agreed among industry insiders that Bush's father helped little Harken gain the Bahrain contract.

According to an article by Robert Sherrill in the Texas Observer in June 1999, "When the Bahrain contract was made public, Harken's stock jumped in value, and he sold 212,140 shares — 60 percent of his holdings — for $848,500. Nice timing. Eight days later the company issued its quarterly report, showing a stunning loss of $23 million."

Sherrill goes on to say that soon after, the Persian Gulf crisis erupted and nervous investors dumped Harken's stock, causing it to lose over 50% of its value. The SEC investigated the affair, but no action was taken other than to warn the energy firm to change its reporting practices. Of course, George W's father was president at that time.

Vice President Dick Cheney spent five years as CEO at Halliburton Company, a huge oil-service corporation with a military logistics subsidiary, Kellogg, Brown and Root. The company builds oil wells around the world and services the oil industry and the military industrial complex. It employs 85,000 people in over 100 countries. It was not some accident or freak of history that a former secretary of defense — a presidential cabinet level position — should head up such a capitalist venture. According to confidential U.N. records and oil industry executives, Halliburton, through its subsidiaries Dresser-Rand and Ingersoll Dresser Pump Co., sold material to Baghdad through French affiliates. The sales lasted from the first half of 1997 to the summer of 2000, according to NewsMax Wires (Monday, June 25, 2001). Cheney resigned from Halliburton in August 2000.

"It is imperative that the U.S. control the oil resources of the region." General Anthony Zinni, in testimony before Congress in 1999.

According to Newsweek, based on Halliburton's filings and data from Thompson Wealth Management, Cheney made about $45 million in five years after dumping his stock in the company before it fell from $54.02 a share to $13.52. After Cheney's service under Bush senior, George W. Bush appointed him to run for vice president of the United States. (You would have to be totally misinformed to not know that former President George H. W. Bush, senior [a big fish], made the family fortune in the oil business. This is in sharp contrast to what happened to the workers who had retirement plans with the firm.)

"When the company hired Cheney in 1995, the former Defense secretary, who had overseen the Gulf War, was going to provide entrée to emirs, kings and oil ministers to help transform Halliburton from a medium-sized firm into a multinational giant. And he did," writes Allan Sloan and Johnnie L. Roberts in Newsweek.

You may ask, why is this war of aggression happening now? The issue is obviously control of world oil resources for well into the future. It is part of a strategy by the Bush administration to gain control of OPEC. Oil is a finite resource. The United States, with only 4% of the world's population, consumes 25% of the world's oil. Oil industry experts, including British Petroleum Amoco, admit that world oil production will peak somewhere between 2006 and 2015. After that occurs, production will decline each year, gradually falling to a level that cannot meet the demands of the world.

OPEC Connection

It follows then, that whoever controls the bulk of the world's oil reserves will control the world. Richard Duncan, Ph.D., speaking at a symposium of the Geological Society of America in August of 2000, declared, "oil production will peak as soon as 2006." Duncan then goes on to explain that after peak production occurs between 2006 and 2015, "oil production will fall by 58.8%."

BP Amoco puts OPEC's "proved reserves" at 77.6% of the world total. It becomes plain then, that in order for world capitalism and globalization to continue at its current pace, it must gain control of OPEC. We believe that this war with Iraq is the first of many wars designed to change the geopolitical landscape in the Middle East and wherever monopoly capital forces, in general, and the U.S., in specific, believe they need to ensure their hegemony for years to come. The strategy calls for the U.S. starting with Iraq, but it will not end there.

Iraq currently holds the world's second largest oil reserves, 11% of the total. Moreover, geologists believe that the western region of the country contains large undiscovered reserves. Most of Iraq's oil infrastructure is held together by "putty and string," to quote one industry source. Moreover, due to the effects of sanctions, Iraq has not been able to explore new regions or even repair its existing infrastructure. If sanctions were lifted and technology brought in, oil production in Iraq would increase dramatically. The Bush administration is aware of this and can't wait to get its hands on Iraqi oil.

But this is just round one of the Bush administration's desperate attempt to strengthen its stranglehold on the world.

U.S. Death March Against Iraq, Led by Bush's Team Sparks World Resistance to Global Capitalism

The Bush administration, by its callous disregard for world opinion and obvious grab for world domination, has made it easy for a movement to form quickly.

All over the world people are beginning to organize.

As the buildup in the Gulf intensifies, so does the will of the world's people to stop this war. Recently, a coalition of U.S. soldiers and a dozen U.S. congresspeople won a rare expedited review by federal appeals court in Boston of a lawsuit challenging President George W. Bush's authority to wage war against Iraq. The order issued Tuesday, February 25th by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in Boston, came less than 24 hours after a federal judge had dismissed the case. On Wednesday, March 5, in Oakland, California, 1,500 students joined tens of thousand nationwide protesting the then-impending war on Iraq. On February 21st railroad workers joined with anti-globalization forces in Northern Italy attempting to prevent the movement of U.S. tanks and trucks to be used against Iraq. In January, millions of people around the world marched against the war.

On February 15th and 16th, millions more took to the streets to raise their voices in alarm and resistance. In over 600 cities of the world, huge crowds turned out. In Italy, Spain and Britain, whose governments have come out in support of the war, the demonstrations were particularly telling: Over 1 million people in London, 1.5 million in Barcelona and 2 million in Rome.

The world is in motion against the U.S. policy of agression and exploitation. Never before had an anti-war movement grown so vocal and active before the start of a war. It's not just the obviously imperial designs of the

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U.S. rulers or their obvious disregard for international law and for human rights. It's the economy.

Now with the start of the "Shock and Awe" campaign against Iraq by the so-called Coalition Forces led by the United States, the people are mobilizing in droves because their OWN lives are being threatened or destroyed by international monopoly capitalism. Whole continents have been devastated in a matter of months. Not just Asia, Africa and Latin America but North America and Europe have suffered from the maliciously manipulative machinations of the U.S. industrial war machine. The world is in motion. Unfortunately mass motion alone is not enough to stop the U.S. war machine.

It took years after the opening of the Vietnam War for people to mount a resistance movement to the war on as large a scale as we have already seen in relation to the blitzkrieg against Iraq we are seeing today. Nonetheless, the anti-war movement of the sixties never even purported to challenge the roots of the war – international monopoly capitalism, currently headquartered in the United States. The anti-war movement then was a fundamentally defensive movement, based on the single issue of the Vietnam War. The U.S. government, especially under the Republican Nixon-Kissinger administration, controlled and manipulated the anti-war movement, which collapsed when Nixon co-opted their "Bring the Boys Home" issue by doing just that — bringing the U.S. soldiers home while continuing the war in Vietnam under the slogans of "Peace with Honor" and "Vietnamization."

Let's not make the same mistake. We cannot afford to allow our enemies to set the terms of the struggle. We cannot afford a defensive struggle that is reactionary to terms and issues that are set and controlled by our enemies. We need an offensive fight FOR the things that we need:

Point # Ten of the Black Panther Party Ten-Point Program:

WE WANT LAND, BREAD, HOUSING, EDUCATION, CLOTHING, JUSTICE, PEACE, AND PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CONTROL OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY.

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.

— Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson, 1786

These are the very things that THEY have taken from us or never allowed us to have and the very things that they need more of in order to not fall by the wayside of history as the last remnant of the Dark Ages. They are collapsing. They are failing. They cannot maintain their ability to rule in the manner in which they have become accustomed so they must lock up more and more people with increasing amounts of torture and repression in this country and unlawfully overpower and seize control over oil assets in other sovereign countries around the globe.

It is WRONG to allow them to control the agenda. We must advance OUR AGENDA FOR OUR NEEDS. Whereas those needs of our people are the real issues of the revolution, people can and must pick up the fight for the economic things WE need and the POLITICAL ability to set the principles, priorities and policies through which our nation and world is governed.

Commemoration Committee for the Black Panther Party (CCBPP) exists to advance the principles of the Black Panther Party, its Ten Point Program and the concept of Revolutionary Intercommunalism, as laid out primarily in the writings of Dr. Huey P. Newton.

Revolutionary Intercommunalism provides a scientific and dialectical framework where people around the world can make a difference, so that we gain possession of the resources and rebuild on the principle of revolutionary, socialist institutions, and developing the means by which to redistribute those resources to the world's masses as opposed to the narrow few. Our vision is a world in which people join together to advance common interests, such as viable income, education and healthcare.

Our stance holds to transformation. We believe in prioritizing use of resources and people instead of the accumulation of capitalist wealth. The point being: There is enough dignity to go around when we eliminate poverty.

CCBPP has training programs for full-time and part-time organizers. Call us today to arrange for an interview to sign up for a training program. We must carry this call to every corner of our nation.

All Power to the People

Photo by Hans Bennett

October 2, 2002: The Kensington Welfare Rights Union couples anti-war and anti-poverty justice issues with human rights in Philadelphia.

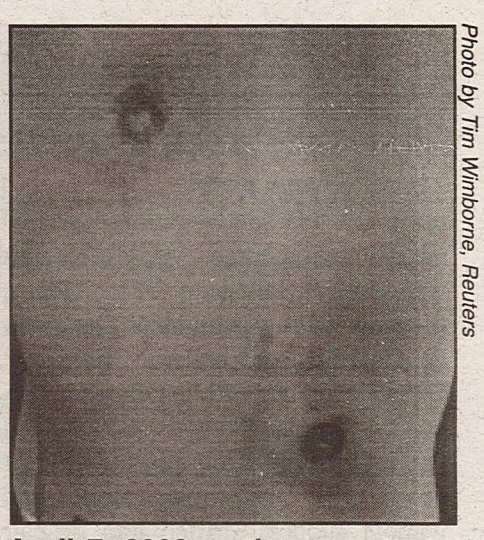


Photo by Tim Wimborne, Reuters

April 7, 2003, anti-war protester Clay Hinson was wounded by Oakland, CA Police with wooden bullets during a demonstration at the Port of Oakland.

Urban Removal

Continued from page 6

- Property values decreased by the presence of crime and lack of income needed for maintenance and repair.

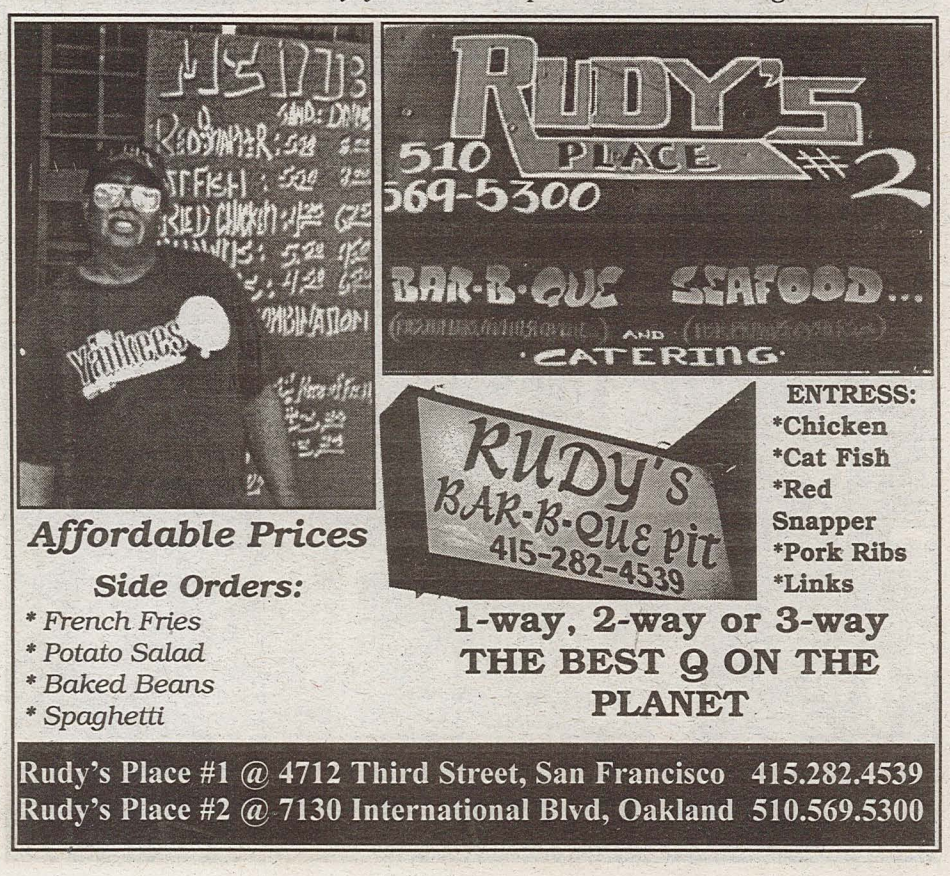
- Jurisdiction and power of existing police and quasi-police administrative agencies are radically expanded.

- Multinational developers, large general contractors, mortgage bankers, venture capitalists, governmental agencies (GNMA, FNMA) devour and profit from property and bargain prices, often using government-funded, so called community development corporations as cover.

Creation and funding of community police state fifth column apparatus. Lower-income: landlords, tenants, businesses, and community organizations are evicted, foreclosed, subjected to eminent domain, or otherwise relocated.

Fifth column: Said to have been used first in a radio address by the Spanish Nationalist General Mola, then (1939) beseiging Madrid with four columns from the outside, and the "fifth" from within. The fifth column being those people in Madrid who gave aid and support to the forces led by fascist Francisco Franco in his uprising against the Spanish Republic.

All Power to the People



Mumia, Black History Month

Continued from page 3

campaign that was beginning to brew against this outrage. The differences were critical, however, for in Albany, the movement was divided. The president of the local college where Ms. Quarterman was enrolled expelled her, and the local support was so splintered that a disgusted King quit the city for home. Ms. Quarterman, alone, and without support, drifted into despair and depression. Her life options severely restricted in the apartheid South, she suffered what was diagnosed as "paranoid schizophrenia," committed to a mental institution, where she presumably remains to this day. (Question: Was she schizophrenic, or was the system of racial segregation and white supremacy?). Her life teaches us, not the impotence of resistance, but the necessity of united action in resistance to social wrongs. She was right; those who failed to support her, for any reason, were wrong.

There are, of course, others whom it is doubtful we will glimpse on U.S. postage stamps; like Margaret Morgan, a fugitive captive who fled to Pennsylvania in the 1840s, and was seized by a slavecatcher, Edward Prigg, under the draconian Fugitive Slave Act of 1793. Legal scholars may recognize the slavecatcher's name as a famous caption in the case, *Prigg v. Pennsylvania* (1842), but most Americans, if asked the identity of Ms. Morgan, would probably ask, "What picture did she star in?" She was at the center of the case, for her freedom hinged on the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court. "Justice" Joseph Story (of Massachusetts) held on the side of the slavecatchers, and gave judicial blessing to the return of Margaret Morgan to a bitter bondage in the South — with her children—the youngest born into a "free" state. The lesson? That freedom proceeds from the struggle for freedom, not from the courts of the rich and influential.

Will there be any postage stamps to honor the historical contributions of Dr. Huey P. Newton, founder of the Black Panther Party? To Ramona Africa, the courageous fighter and resister who survived an urban holocaust on May 13th, 1985? To George (or Jonathan?) Jackson? To Ruchell Magee — a brilliant jailhouse lawyer whose work has led to the freedom of over 40 young(er) men, but who is perhaps the longest-held Black political prisoner in the Americas? To the great Seminole warrior, Coacoochee (also called "Wild Cat") who fought for Red and Black freedom from the American slavers, and his brother fighter, John Horse (Coacoochee & Horse fought over 400 American outlaws, soldiers and bandits in 1851 in northern Mexico, and beat them, with 60 Seminole warriors)? We think not.

Black History isn't "safe," it's challenging, and troubling, and speaks to the lives we live now, under the illusion of "freedom." It ain't MLK alone, but the many who followed, and the many who did not.

Why not jettison Black History Month, just as Black History Week was jettisoned?

Why not a Black Liberation Month? That would concentrate our minds, not only on history, but on the sometimes painful lessons of history; but more importantly, it would point us to the undiscovered land that beckons us all — the future.

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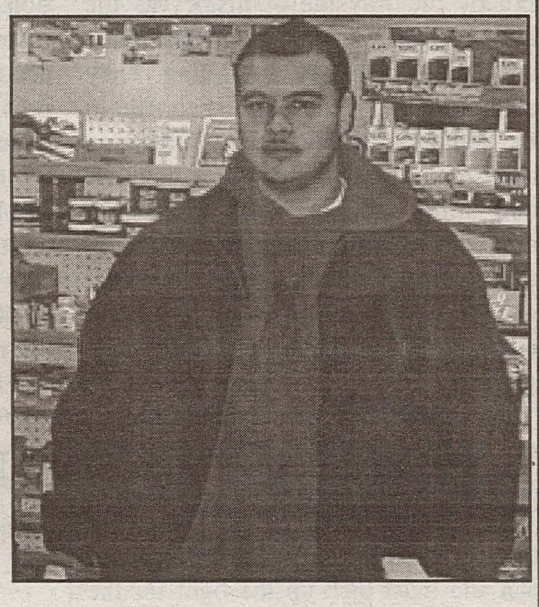

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AIDS in Africa: New Plague or Old Illnesses of Poverty?

Racist HIV Myth Hides Ruthless U.S. Exploitation.

Unlike in the United States, AIDS in Africa is most frequently diagnosed based on four very imprecise clinical symptoms—diarrhea, fever, persistent cough, and weight loss greater than 10% over two months. *HIV antibody tests are not required to diagnose a case of African AIDS.* These four clinical symptoms are identical to the problems created by conditions of poverty that have troubled Africa and other developing areas of the world for centuries. In fact, symptoms of the so-called African AIDS epidemic are indistinguishable from the effects of malnutrition, unsanitary drinking and bathing water, and common curable conditions like malaria, cholera, tuberculosis, and parasitic infections.

Rather than solve the problems of African poverty caused by centuries of ruthless Western exploitation, the U.S. government insists on broadcasting the doomsday notion that Africa is suddenly gripped by a deadly, spreading sexual plague. According to these American health authorities, salvation from sickness can only be found in profitable pills manufactured by the white West and exported to black Africa.

America's Racist HIV Myth

The idea that AIDS originated in Africa is a popular myth without any scientific or epidemiological evidence. News reports that blame AIDS on African green monkeys are based upon elaborate speculation about species-jumping viruses rather than reliable proof. Tall tales about the spread of AIDS are promoted through the most vulgar and racist sexual stereotypes about promiscuous African people.

Still, the numbers speak for themselves. According to the 1999 *WHO Global HIV/AIDS Report,* the total number of AIDS cases in Africa virtually equals the total number of cases in America even though Africa, with its 650 million citizens, has more than two times the population of the United States. Africa is often cited as a worst case example of what could happen in America despite figures demonstrating that 99.5% of Africans do not have AIDS, and among Africans who test HIV positive, 97% do not have AIDS.

The Truth About African AIDS:

- **HIV antibody tests are not required for an AIDS diagnosis in Africa.**
- **African AIDS is diagnosed by four very imprecise clinical symptoms:**
  - **— Diarrhea**
  - **— Fever**
  - **— Persistent cough**
  - **— Weight loss greater than 10% over two months**
- **Tuberculosis, malaria, and measles far outnumber cases of AIDS in Africa.**
- **AIDS is not the leading cause of illness or death in any African nation.**

While Africa is the frequent target of damaging AIDS media reports, the total number of cases on the continent is relatively small. For example, from 1981 through 1999 cumulative AIDS cases for South Africa, the area claimed hardest hit by HIV, were just 12,825.

Exporting Extermination: AIDS Pills Kill!

It is undeniable that experimental AIDS treatments like protease inhibitors and AZT are all highly toxic, dangerous products. Strokes, muscle wasting, anemia, physical deformities, dementia, birth defects, organ failure, and death are some of the "side effects" of these poisons. Thousands of gay men in the 1980s and 1990s died from AZT poisoning. Now the U.S. State Department has elevated AIDS to the level of a threat to national security in order to gain public support for exporting AZT to pregnant African women. Outspoken leaders like South African President Thabo Mbeki—hard pressed to explain why developing nations stricken with famine and civil chaos should spend what little money they have on toxic anti-HIV drugs while millions starve—are relentlessly attacked as unfit and crazy by racist Western media outlets.

We invite you to investigate the growing international controversy over the cause and treatment of AIDS for yourself. Clip and mail the coupon below for a free copy of the groundbreaking book *What If Everything You Thought You Knew About AIDS Was Wrong?* by AIDS survivor Christine Maggiore.

Fight the AID$ Fraud!

ACT UP San Francisco is the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power—a militant, direct action organization committed to ending the AIDS fraud. General body meetings are held every Monday night at 7:30 p.m. at 1884 Market Street and our medical marijuana dispensary is open 12:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Get involved. Join ACT UP! End the abuse of AIDS.

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The Commemoration Committee for the Black Panther Party Thanks the following people, small businesses, and organizations for their participation and support for Bobby Hutton's Head Stone

Richard Aioka
Ulysses Chappel
Kathleen Cleaver
Bobby Coleman
Terry Cotton
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Claire Green
Kia Hayes
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Jeff Krohn
Pierre LaBossiere
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Friendly Market
Jim Meats'
It's About Time and BPP Alumni
Mountain View Cemetery
ACT UP/San Francisco
Dr. Huey P. Newton Foundation

Black History Month

Continued from page 4

U.S. has spent considerable amounts of money to fund the "Convergence" opposition group that has called for the violent overthrow of the democratically elected government.

"The life expectancy in Haiti is 47 for men and 51 for women. The adult literacy rate in Haiti is 53% (down from a high of 85% pre-President Aristide). The birth rate is 35/1000. The death rate is 12/1000. The fertility rate is 5 children per woman. (There is a direct correlation between education and opportunity for women and fertility rates; as women become more educated and are given more authority, the fertility rate goes down, partly because they are given the tools to determine when they want to get pregnant.) The net result is a population that doubles every 31 years. This is a country of limited resources and space. Haiti has only 10,714 square miles and a population of 7.6 million people (1998 statistics) for an average of 709 people per square mile as compared with California, 34.7 million people and an area of 159,000 square miles for an average of 218 people per square mile."

LaBossiere gave a quick history lesson on Haiti, which gained its independence from France in 1804. Haiti means "land of mountains." Arowok Native Americans and Africans had discovered Haiti long before Columbus ever set foot on shore. In 1791 a slave uprising freed half the Island. (The Dominican Republic was born then.) A 13-year-long war with Napoleon's army ensued. It was a limited and a short victory for the Pan-African Revolution. Today, Haiti remains economically and politically oppressed by the forces of monopoly capitalism, such as the Bush Administration's embargo against humanitarian and economic aid to Haiti.

There were however divisions within the oppressed class. The slave masters would use favoritism to create rifts between the slave classes. The "lucky ones" would be given duty in the house while others toiled in the fields. They were ultimately connected by voodoo, which means spirituality. It also connected them to the motherland, Africa.

On January 1st, 1804, there was a public meeting where it was decided that slavery would no longer exist and they were going to rename their new republic Haiti, which is what the original inhabitants called it.

Of course, the abolition of slavery did not exactly sit well with the Frenchmen who had lots of investment in their human workers. They demanded reparations to the tune of 150,000,000 Francs. Haiti has been attempting to pay off debt ever since. By the end of the 19th century, a full 80% of the young republic's budget would go to service debt payments!

In 1915, the U.S. Marines invaded Haiti. As popular revolt began, the U.S. tried to keep the status quo of exploitation. U.S. history books typically twist the truth to make the American invasion look angelic. The reality was they were attempting to reinstate a de-facto slavery, and unfortunately, they were largely successful.

Years later, Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier (b.1907 - d.1971) and later his son (at the age of 19), Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" (b.1951) ruled the country with an iron fist.

As the old saying goes, "follow the money." In this case, we need to look at the estimated $1,000,000,000 that Baby Doc Duvalier socked away in Swiss bank accounts. The Duvaliers maintained control of Haiti by sheer terror, killing between 30,000 and 50,000 people. The intimidation was so acute that a whole family would be "disappeared" based on an "unacceptable" comment of that family's five-year-old child.

The people finally had enough (or maybe it was Baby Doc who had enough...money.) Baby Doc Duvalier fled Haiti to France with his billion or so dollars and left the poor of his country to pay his debt. The Haitians elected a new President, Jean-Bertrand Aristide (b. 1953).

Despite President Aristide's huge popularity with the Haitian people, the U.S. and the World Bank are not fond of him, and have taken great effort to marginalize and emasculate him in the corporate media. Aristide was originally elected in 1990 with 67% of the vote. About a year later there was a military coup and he was forced into exile for 1,111 days. Despite losing to Rene Garcia Preval in the 1996 presidential race, he returned again in 2001 with the backing of the majority of farmers and workers, President Aristide has high hopes for Haiti. He believes that people deserves compensation for their labor.

Dickson closed the program pitching the audience sign-up and volunteer, and to attend the coming Saturday, February 15, the Li'l Bobby Hutton Ceremony, the placing of new headstone at his gravesite and the afterward reception at the CCBPP office facility.

For information on how to donate books or help tutor with the Bobby Hutton Literacy Campaign, please contact Kia Hayes at 510-652-7170

Huey's Corner

Continued from page 7

lazy niggers to do the job and you and your whole party have set the revolution back five years."[53] When the Howard University student newspaper printed a letter signed "Concerned Students of Howard University" which was critical of Huey Newton and the Party, the San Francisco FBI field office mailed Xerox copies to seventeen newspapers in northern California; the letter had been prepared and sent to the student newspaper in the first place by the Washington, D.C. FBI field office.[54]

When Newton's conviction for allegedly shooting a policeman was reversed in 1970, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover immediately requested official authorization from Attorney General John Mitchell for "a microphone surveillance and a telephone surveillance at apartment 25A, 1200 Lakeshore, Oakland"[55] — Huey Newton's new residence. Hoover considered it "likely that high-level party-conferences will be held at this location," and he reminded Mitchell "that existing telephone surveillance on certain Black Panther officers, all of which have been authorized by you, have provided extremely valuable information on Black Panther Party involvement in foreign matters and plans for violent acts against top officials of this country and foreign diplomatic personnel."[56] (The ending clause, clumsily tacked on the sentence, was the requisite "national security" justification for covert action.) Hoover's request concluded with the observation that "trespass will be involved with respect to the microphone surveillance."[57]

Mitchell approved the request and San Francisco FBI agents paid the building engineer, Roger DuClot, to accompany them in breaking into Newton's apartment to install the microphone in the wall.[58]

[43] FBI Memorandum from to Los Angeles Field Office, August 8, 1970.

[44] FBI Memorandum from Hqtrs to New York Field Office, August 2, 1970.

[45] Ibid.

[46] Memorandum from FBI Hqtrs to Philadelphia Field Office, August 19, 1970.

[47] Ibid.

[48] FBI Memorandum from Los Angeles Field Office to FBI Hqtrs, August 10, 1970.

[49] FBI Memorandum from Director to SAC, Los Angeles, September 30, 1970. There was a somewhat subtle method to the Bureau's madness. The original proposal noted that "by forwarding the letter to Hilliard ... a measure of Hilliard's loyalty to Newton may be more properly assessed. If Hilliard ... in fact turn[s] this letter over to Newton, then it can be assumed that efforts to drive a wedge between Hilliard and and Newton could prove futile. If, on the other hand. Hilliard chooses to keep the contents of the letter to himself and fails to warn Newton of the impending danger the letter reflects, then it ... would be deemed appropriate to direct further counterintelligence efforts towards polarizing these two individuals. ... If ... Hilliard does make Newton aware of the letter ... it may then further add to Newton's paranoia and fear for his life which would serve to demean his effectiveness, both as a leader of the BPP and as a public figure. (FBI Memorandum from Los Angeles Field Office to FBI Hqtrs, August 10, 1970.)

[50] FBI Memorandum from New York Field Office to Hqtrs, October 29, 1970.

[51] Ibid.

[52] Ibid.

[53] FBI Memorandum from Hqtrs to San Francisco Field Office, December 16, 1970

[54] FBI Memorandum from San Francisco Field Office to Hqtrs, February 25, 1971.

[55] Interview with Charles R. Garry, February 21, 1978. Mr. Garry is an attorney in San Francisco who has represented the Party for many years against false criminal charges. The quotation in the text is from a memorandum dictated by Mr. Garry upon reviewing FBI files made available to him pursuant to court order in Dellinger v. Mitchell, Civ. Action No. 1768-69, Fed. Dist. Ct. (D.C. 1969).

[56] Ibid.

[57] Ibid.

[58] Declaration of Walter W. Niles, August 30, 1977, and filed in People v. Newton, Nos. 64624A and 65919. Niles had overall responsibility for management of the apartment building in which Huey Newton resided. He testified that "the rent for apartment 25B [the one next to Newton]... was being paid by the FBI. ... A man named Roger M. DuClot was the building engineer ... he was being paid as an informant by the FBI, and ... he assisted the FBI in installing various electronic devices in the walls of apartment 25B.

All Power to the People

CCBPP STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Commemoration Committee for the Black Panther Party (CCBPP) is committed to the goals of the Black Panther Party (BPP) as outlined in its Ten-Point Program which was written in 1966 by Party founders, Dr. Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale.

The Ten-Point Program outlines goals and objectives toward changing conditions of economic exploitation and political oppression in all low-income and working class communities in the U.S. and elsewhere, as the basis for unity and solidarity.

Also, the CCBPP is committed to the concept of Revolutionary Intercommunalism, introduced by Dr. Newton in 1970 at Boston College. Our Revolutionary Intercommunalism holds that there are basically two sides. On one side there is reactionary intercommunalism which presently holds the world's low-income and working communities under conditions of economic exploitation and political oppression by controlling the wealth, resources and institutions in order to maximize profits for the few. Huey identified this side as the leading reactionary side (the ruling class) which consists of a minority, fewer than five percent of the world population. Under these conditions, reactionary intercommunalism, by and large, keeps the poor and working communities on a cycle of degradation, under conditions of reaction, desperation and poverty, with no end in sight. Newton understood that in order to change these conditions and advance the economic and cultural interests of these oppressed communities of the world, disciplined organizations must be built from the bottom up, enabling these low-income and working communities to fight exploitation and oppression by any means necessary (this fight needs to start in the advanced industrialized U.S. because our nation leads the world in political reaction and economic exploitation). CCBPP advances and upholds the goals which the BPP outlined in its Ten-Point Program, and those goals are about ridding black ghettos and low-income and working communities of economic exploitation and political oppression, understanding that we can reach these goals only by seizing the time at the point of practice.

Black Panther Party Ten-Point Program
WHAT WE WANT, WHAT WE BELIEVE

1. WE WANT FREEDOM, WE WANT POWER TO DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES. We believe that Black and oppressed people will not be free until we are able to determine our destinies in our own communities ourselves, by fully controlling all the institutions that exist in our communities.

2. WE WANT FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR PEOPLE. We believe that the federal government is responsible and obligated to give every person employment or a guaranteed income. We believe that if the American businessmen will not give full employment, then the technology and means of production should be taken from the businessmen and placed in the community so that the people of the community can organize and employ all its people and give a high standard of living.

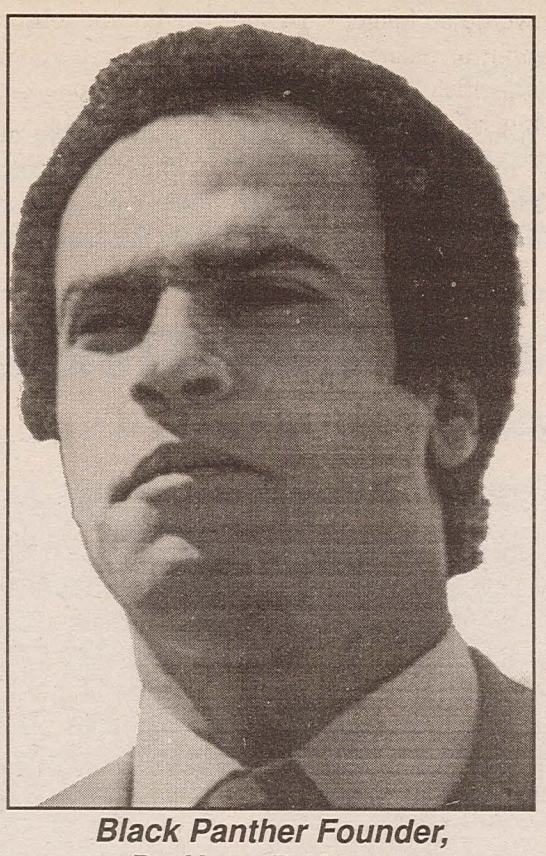
3. WE WANT AN END TO THE ROBBERY BY THE CAPITALIST OF OUR BLACK AND OPPRESSED COMMUNITIES. We believe that the racist government has robbed us and now we are demanding the overdue debt of forty acres and two mules. Forty acres and two mules were promised 100 years ago as restitution for slave labor and mass murder of Black people. We will accept the payment in currency that will be distributed to our many communities. The American racist has taken part in the slaughter of over fifty million Black people. Therefore, we feel this is a modest demand that we make.

4. WE WANT DECENT HOUSING, FIT FOR THE SHELTER OF HUMAN BEINGS. We believe that if the landlords will not give decent housing to our Black and oppressed communities, then housing and the land should be made into cooperatives so that the people on our communities, with government aid, can build and make decent housing for the people.

5. WE WANT EDUCATION FOR OUR PEOPLE THAT EXPOSES THE TRUE NATURE OF THIS DECADENT AMERICAN SOCIETY. WE WANT EDUCATION THAT TEACHES US OUR TRUE HISTORY AND OUR ROLE IN THE PRESENT-DAY SOCIETY. We believe in an educational system that will give to our people a knowledge of self. If you do not have knowledge of yourself and your position in the society and the world, then you will have little chance to know anything else.

6. WE WANT COMPLETELY FREE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL BLACK AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE. We believe that the government must provide, free of charge, for the people, health facilities that will not only treat our illnesses, most of which have come about as a result of our oppression, but will also develop preventive medical programs to guarantee our future survival. We believe that mass health education and research programs must be developed to give all Black and oppressed people access to advanced scientific and medical information, so we may provide ourselves with proper medical attention and care.

7. WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO POLICE BRUTALITY AND MURDER OF BLACK PEOPLE, OTHER PEOPLE OF COLOR, ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE INSIDE THE UNITED STATES. We believe that the racist and fascist government of the United States uses its domestic enforcement agencies to carry out its program of oppression against Black people, other people of color, and poor people inside the United States. We believe it is our right, therefore, to defend ourselves against such armed forces and that all Black and oppressed people should be armed for self-defense of our homes and communities against these fascist police forces.



Black Panther Founder, Dr. Huey P. Newton

8. WE WANT AN IMMEDIATE END TO ALL WARS OF AGGRESSION. We believe that the various conflicts which exist around the world stem directly from the aggressive desires of the U. S. ruling circle and government to force its domination upon the oppressed people of the world. We believe that if the U. S. government or its lackeys do not cease these aggressive wars that it is the right of the people to defend themselves by any means necessary against their aggressors.

9. WE WANT FREEDOM FOR ALL BLACK AND POOR OPPRESSED PEOPLE NOW HELD IN U. S. FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, CITY, AND MILITARY PRISONS AND JAILS. WE WANT TRIALS BY A JURY OF PEERS FOR ALL PERSONS CHARGED WITH SO-CALLED CRIMES UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS COUNTRY. We believe that the many Black and poor oppressed people now held in U. S. prisons and jails have not received fair and impartial trials under a racist and fascist judicial system and should be free from incarceration. We believe in the ultimate elimination of all wretched, inhuman penal institutions, because the masses of men and women imprisoned inside the United States or by the U. S. military are the victims of oppressive conditions that are the real cause of their imprisonment. We believe that when persons brought to trial that they must be guaranteed, by the United States, juries of their peers, attorneys of their choice and freedom from imprisonment while awaiting trials.

10. WE WANT LAND, BREAD, HOUSING, EDUCATION, CLOTHING, JUSTICE, PEACE AND PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CONTROL OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY. When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But, when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism. It is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.

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The African American Health Summit

The Bay Area's Largest

On 1/31 and 2/1/03 the Bay Area Black United Fund convened the Bay Area's largest Health Summit focused on the overall health of African Americans. The event began on 1/31 at the Oakland Marriott Convention Center with workshops focusing on women's health, disparities in disease, HIV disease, nurition, community collaboratives, grass roots mobilization, your health and the media, disease prevention programs etc. Dr. Joycelyn Elders (The first African American/ Female Surgeon General) summed up the first day by encouraging participants to not just talk about the issues, but to use their collective wisdom and capabilities to put programs into action.

When asked about the national budget by the *Commemorator,* Dr. Elders responded. **"If you talk about what we spend on the United State's budget, we spend $33 million an hour on the defense budget. We spend $24 million an hour to reduce the national debt. We spend $10 million an hour to bail out those Savings and Loan companies, and we spend less than $3 million an hour on the health and education of the children of America. That says where we put our priorities."**

Dr. Joycelyn Elders, former United States Surgeon General.

On February 1, a variety of agencies, health care providers, community groups and organizations merged to present the health fair of health fairs. Billy Blanks (the Tae Bo Man) and Kim Jones led a music exercise program for families. Chef Leslie James presented healthy cooking demonstrations while the 100 Black Men/Black Nurse Association, the Ethnic Health Institute and the James A. Watson Wellness Center performed a variety of health exams and screenings. Community health classes, included Stop Smoking Naturally, Men's Health Choices, Managing Anger and What Grandma Knew About Herbs, just to name a few. The message rang clear that we must not wait on federal, state or local governmental agencies to "heal us." We must utilize our individual and collective capabilities. Begin by looking at your own health and the health of your loved ones.

Walk The Walk

For too long you've been talking the talk, and now it's time to WALK THE WALK!!
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510.444.9460 Watch the Health Beat Show, channel 27, Sunday 5 - 6 pm Oakland Cable.

I Believe

By Bryan Watson

(7th grade/Head Royce Middle School)

The world is such a beautiful place and it's filled with trees, flowers and all of the little children having fun. However there are many bad things in the world, one of which includes racism. Racial disparity in health care is a very serious issue. Disparity means that white Americans get better health care than African Americans, Asian Americans and Hispanic Americans. Racial disparities can make minorities afraid to go to the doctor and if they are not stopped the result will be a perpetual decline in the health and wellness of all people.

Racial disparities regarding health care have a horrible history. One reason disparities exist is "There was a teaching in the past that the biological and physical structure of people of color was believed to be different and inferior to Caucasians," said Dr. Rodney Hood, Immediate past president of the National Medical Association. This teaching is a complete myth. Minorities are not physically or mentally inferior to Caucasians.

"Talking the Talk" is a great example of what the government is doing. Instead of planning the plan, the government should be doing the plan. The Watson Wellness Center "walks the walk" by setting up a mobile health clinic, run by culturally and ethnically sensitive people, to give early medical screening and treatment to minorities.

More people need to try to find a way to help eliminate disparities. The horrible history of racism makes it harder. The government should start those great ideas they came up with before all the minorities are gone. Health care advocates and providers with ethnic sensitivity should keep doing their thing and they could change America.

Spiritual Healing Religion and Medicine

By Genine Turner
(Manager James A. Watson Wellness Center)

Many cultures have developed concepts that separate spirituality and medicine, on the one hand concentrating on the body and on the other, concentrating on the mind, soul, and spirit. In modern times Western medicine has thus fostered the differentiation of medicine from faith and doctor from priest. Research has shown that many cultures originally felt that holiness and healing have common orgins. The two have been combined with the early cultures to produce wholeness, a term which has resurfaced to become a common theme for holistic health. The James A. Watson Wellness Center is the Community outlet for Holistic Health.

Healthy Oakland

A Faith Based Health Collaborative

By H. G. Watson M.D.

Healthy Oakland is a program founded to improve the health and well being of at risk individuals in Oakland and Alameda County. It began with the vision of elder Raymond E. Lankford, and from the concerns of Bishop Ernestine C. Reems and the Center of Hope Community Church. What it focuses on, indeed, is the health and disparities as it relates to ethnicity and disease. Leading the movement to "Stop the violence" in East Oakland, the organization provides; 1) Assistance with the development of healthy minorities, 2) Healthy school programs, 3) Disease preventive screenings, 4) Healthy Business Program, 5) Health education, mobilization and healthy media via The Health Beat TV show, and 6) Mobile Health Van Services.

Healthy Oakland has a success network that includes strong collaborations with such organizations as The Transplant Donors Network, The Black Nurse Assoc., 100 Black men, Jackson's Medical Supplies, Alameda County Health Care Services Agencies, The Pastors of Oakland, and the Powers Marketing Services, and The James A. Watson Wellness Center.

On May 10, at Oakland's Frank Ogawa Plaza, attend a **Mother's Day Health Event,** from noon to 4pm, including free disease screenings,150 gift baskets for the mothers, small, donated gifts and information on the origin of Mother's Day.